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FBIS-LAT-93-160 *20 August 1993*

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Cuba

Castro Visits U.S. Interests Section Fasting Vigil

FL2008022193 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Aug 93

[Text] This afternoon, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz visited the place in front of the U.S. Interests Section in Havana, where more than 60 people, believers and clergymen, are carrying out a vigil of fasting and prayer, against the blockade and in support of the Pastors for Peace in Laredo.

[Begin recording] [reporter] Commander, since early this morning the Cuban people have been coming here to express their solidarity. Maybe you would like to comment on this.

[Castro] Well, I too wanted to join the tens of thousands of people who I believe have already come today, to make an appearance on the international day of solidarity with the men of Laredo.

[Reporter] All the people are awaiting the response to this meeting. I believe that it is important, not only for the desired lifting of the blockade, but for the lives of these pastors.

[Castro] Right now, the most important thing is the health of those people there.

[Reporter] Are you satisfied with this position of the Cuban people?

[Castro] We could even say that I am amazed. First of all, I am amazed by those who are in Laredo; of Lucius Walker and the rest of the group there. Secondly, of the pastors here who, through their actions, have joined in in an exemplary way. What corresponds to a situation like this one? I am also amazed at the manner and the order with which they have carried it out and the example of brotherhood and unity they have expressed with regard to this problem, where we have seen believers and nonbelievers fasting here. Some cases are admirable, such as the case of this girl, who came on her own from the very beginning. I have received the letter she wrote.

[Reporter] There are already 64 participants.

[Castro] There are 64, right?

[Reporter] Yes, but there has been very special medical care as well. There was a group of....

[Castro, interrupting] Most likely, here they have been able to receive medical care that is not available to those in Laredo. I have heard that they have had difficulty receiving medical treatment in Laredo. They have been fasting for more than 20 days now. That is why this news has great importance, because we are very interested in the health and well-being of those who began the fast more than 20 days ago. That is why I believe this news that has arrived now is good. Have you been here all day?

[Reporter] Well, more or less. The press has always been here one way or another, even into the early hours of the morning.

[Castro] Yes, I have seen some interviews on television. I have kept up-to-date. I think Suarez spoke last night on television, right? Was that in the afternoon or the evening?

[Reporter] It was at 1800, but it was broadcast on the 2000 newscast.

[Castro] At 2000. But I think the radio also mentioned Suarez' comments in the morning.

[Unidentified person] [words indistinct]

[Reporter] Yes, because there is an international day of solidarity with Cuba.

[Castro] I am aware of that. [chuckles]

[Reporter] Obviously you are.

[Castro] That is why I am here. I have come at other times, but I came early in the morning when there are fewer people. But today is the international day of solidarity with Cuba and I had to come early.

[Reporter] We are awaiting the repercussions, even though as you know, the press has been internationally blockaded about information on everything that has happened, but let us see.

[Castro] This is something of great importance, and sometimes the multinational agencies give news that does not have the same repercussion or importance. In my opinion, this is a bit manipulated. Nevertheless, I believe the international cables have been publishing things and some U.S. newspapers have also reported on it. I believe that the action of the pastors here, the fast that they have organized, has also contributed to a greater broadcast of what is happening in Laredo. [end recording]

'Thousands' Visit Havana Vigil

FL1908153693 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1402 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] The people holding a fast and prayer vigil in front of the U.S. Interests Section in Havana have asked Havana residents to gather there today to show their solidarity with the Pastors for Peace conducting a hunger strike in Laredo, Texas. Sixty-four individuals from several religious denominations and nonbelievers continue their week-long mission to support Reverend Lucius Walker and eight comrades on a hunger strike inside a bus at the U.S.- Mexican border.

The fasters are beginning to show the first effects of the fast but their health is under the constant care of a group of doctors. Since the beginning of the protest in front of the U.S. Interests Section office in Havana, thousands

have visited the fasters. A massive show of condemnation of the blockade is expected today.

Robaina Letter to Hunger Strikers

FL1908155893 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1404 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina has sent a letter of support to Reverend Lucius Walker on the Laredo border. The letter opens with a scriptural quotation: The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil. The letter adds that in this way, Walker and his followers, through their sacrifice, join the wave of solidarity cresting in the world and the new breach being opened in the blockade. The letter stresses that the Cuban people are awaiting them with open arms, knowing from experience that victory is attained only through resisting and fighting. The letter, written on 31 July and published on 19 August in GRANMA, reads: The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

ICAP Announces Expanding Solidarity Donations

FL1908183693 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] The Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples [ICAP] has announced that this year, Cuba has received more donations from abroad than in all of 1992. In 1991, the ICAP had ties with 392 friendship associations from 74 countries and over 1,000 activities were held. A year later, ties were established with over 880 organizations in 110 countries. Aid included solidarity flights, eight last year, and the number of specialized groups surpassed 3,000.

So far this year, the amount has doubled. Among the priorities ICAP has stressed to our friends are fuel, medicines, school supplies, and food. Donations will not solve the current problems facing Cuba, but they constitute a priceless expression of support for our cause. As these expressions increase and strengthen, the quality of the effort to classify and distribute the various shipments increases in direct proportion.

Castro Addresses Bolivian Solidarity Groups

FL1908124993 Havana Cuba Vision Network in Spanish 0033 GMT 14 Aug 93

[Speech by Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, at a meeting with Bolivian solidarity groups at the Plaza Hotel in La Paz, Bolivia on 8 August—recorded]

[Text] You want me to speak, but you, yourselves, have spoken only briefly: very well, very beautifully, but very briefly. I was doing other things, including trying to see if I could throw off my sleepiness because I find that I tend to become sleepy at midday, even though I have practically fasted the whole time, for lack of time to eat. On this occasion, I cannot say that my hunger is because of poverty or a lack of hospitality [chuckles], but rather for lack of time.

I am meeting with you in a somewhat informal way. I felt a spiritual need to see you, well, to see you like this, close at hand, because I have been seeing you all around, everywhere: posters, signs, slogans, the things you created, the things you invented. You were present at the ceremony that day. That image of the flags of Cuba and Bolivia is in my memory and I will remember it always. That is why I asked who I should thank for this welcome, all this hospitality, warmth, affection, and solidarity with Cuba. That is why....[pauses] Fortunately, it was possible to reserve some time today, Sunday [8 August], after the soccer game, of course. [laughter] The meeting could not be earlier because it was necessary to watch the game. You can imagine who I was (?rooting for), not just out of affection, but because I knew you were going to win. That was not just wishful thinking. I was told that you have a good team, that you beat the Brazilians and the Venezuelans, and that today you had a score to settle with the Uruguayans. [laughter]

I ran into a Bolivian newsman who came to [words indistinct], and I asked him: What are the prospects for our team? [laughter, applause, chanting of "Fidel, our brother, you are now a Bolivian."] He said: 99.99 percent. [laughter] He was certain of the Bolivians' victory. I said: Listen, in addition to having a good team, you guys are going to win anyhow because the Uruguayans live on the coast; here at 3,700 meters above sea level, they will not be able to breathe. Well, I do not know-....[pauses] The score was 3 to 1, right? [Crowd shouts: "Yes"] Did you watch it on television? [Crowd shouts: "No."] But you heard about it. You heard about it. [repeats] I think it was not going to be broadcast on television so that the people would go to the stadium. It would have been better to broadcast it on television, which is what we do in Cuba. All important, decisive sports events are carried on television so that all the people can watch from their homes. It was said: No, one had to go to the stadium and pay. Well, in Cuba, we do not charge at the stadiums. [applause, shouting of "Viva, Cuba."] So, we give the people the opportunity to see sports events.

Now, it is important not just to have won today, but to continue winning. I believe that when you go to the coast, you will be breathing even better, because it is said that Bolivians have a bigger heart. I believe that is not just because of the altitude, but because of the quality of the Bolivians' heart, [applause] because of your fighting spirit, your commitment to work, your patriotism, and also, speaking a little discreetly so that people do not think that I am an agitator or making incendiary speeches, because of the Bolivians' revolutionary spirit. [applause]

It would be great news to hear that you had won a place in the world championship. We are very bad at soccer. [laughter] There is no way. [as heard] We are good at

many sports, and we have been learning. We have even learned to be good at swimming. Even though Cuba is an island, one does not learn to swim at the edge of the sea. One can learn to float, but one learns to swim in a swimming pool. That is why countries with more swimming pools have better chances, but we have progressed and now we have become Central American swimming champions. [applause]

However, when will we ever be soccer champions? The Yankees introduced some sports including baseball. You are not too familiar with it, and to explain it would take a long time. It is a ball, a bat, a ball, a pitcher, a catcher, millions of things and rules, but well, our country is accustomed to that sport, and it steals athletes from soccer. Many children, instead of playing soccer, as is done here, play ball instead, as we call it, baseball, as the Yankees call it. I can say with pleasure that we are champions in baseball. [applause] We are world champions, olympic champions. In almost 100 international games, we have not lost any. We have even beat those who taught us, or rather who imposed his baseball on us. [applause] That is why I am happy that....[pauses] Well, I am also happy, as a Bolivian, that your team won, and we will follow this closely, with the hope that you breathe better than the others.

How nice it would be if you were to win a medal. To beat the Brazilians was an accomplishment, because Brazilians historically have a great soccer team. Of course, it is a shame that it was not broadcast on television. As I told you, we do broadcast those games because our stadiums do not charge for any sports event. Our country has advanced a lot in this regard and we plan to continue advancing.

I do not know if you are aware that in the last Olympics, we were in fifth place. [applause] Listen, if we had won one more gold medal, we would have been higher than China, and China has a lot of inhabitants. It has close to 1.2 billion, while we have only about 11 million. [Words indistinct] if society, if the state, if the government pays attention to sports, it progresses greatly. Well, often if attention is not paid to health or education, what can one expect will be done with sports?

In our country, even in the midst of the blockade, we have advanced in all these areas. We have achieved a high level in education. Many years have passed since one could speak of illiteracy in Cuba. It does not exist in our country. It has been many years since there have been sick people without medical attention in Cuba. In fact, in our country, almost 100 percent of mothers give birth [dar a luz]—as we phrase it; I do not know how you say it; sometimes we say deliver [paren]. Is that word not used here? [Someone answers: "Yes."] Sometimes. Well, Cubans like to use one or the other. There is not much difference, but if we want to speak politely, 100 percent of women bring their boys and girls into the world in hospitals. [applause]

This applies even to women who live in rural areas because many weeks before delivery, they are brought to maternity hospitals, where they wait, well attended, for their due date. There are always cases in which a child comes into the world without asking permission [laughter], too soon, too hastily. There are those who are born on the way. Well, but that is not because of a lack of medical attention, but because of the child's haste to be born. Of course, that child is not aware of what today's world is like and all the problems it involves. That is why they are in a hurry sometimes. Nevertheless, I wish to say that almost 100 percent of births are what we call institutional deliveries, in other words, hospital deliveries.

There is prenatal attention during the nine months of pregnancy. Do you say pregnancy [embarazo] here, too? [People say: "Yes."] Well, the mothers receive care during the nine months of pregnancy. They receive an infinite number of consultations. It can be said that children receive care before they are born because prenatal analyses are carried out to see if there are problems or difficulties. The mothers, who present what is called some risk, for whatever reason, because of high blood pressure or diabetes, all receive special attention. For this reason, we have a maternal mortality rate that is negligible, among the lowest in the world. Our infant mortality rate is also very low. This year, despite the great problems of the special period, the infant mortality rate was less than 10 per 1,000 live births in the first year of life. [applause] Life expectancy has been increased to close to 76 years of age in Cuba. We have specialized institutions. We have intensive care units because the child not only requires care at birth or during his first year. He must receive care at five years of age, at age 15, all his life, so we have intensive care units.

This is something that we have been discovering over the course of time because we saw how many children were saved in intensive care units. When a child's breathing stops and he needs artificial respiration, when he has cardiac arrest, or some other serious ailment, the specialized personnel and equipment help such children to survive. In our country, we have built some 80 intensive care units. We have those units in all the pediatric hospitals and in many parts of the country, in all the country's provinces.

We wished to transmit that experience to Bolivia, and fortunately, we were able to build three such units. We were building one a year. Later, our economic difficulties made it more difficult, but we did build the first one, called (Ismael Lillo). Someone brought me some data about the number of children treated, the survival rate. The data is over there. Could you bring it to me? As I was entering, I was given the information about children treated at the (Ismael Lillo) unit. (Ismael Lillo) is a personage in a work by Marti.

In 1985, 391 children were treated, and the survival rate was 73 percent. In 1986, 318 were treated and the survival rate was higher. What did I say? That time it

was.... [pauses] The mortality rate was 33. The first year, the survival rate was 67 out of every 100. These are very serious cases. In the second year, the survival rate was 74 percent; in the third year, 76; in 1988, it was 79; in 1989, 77; in 1990, 78; 1991, 79; in 1992, 88; and in 1993, 88 also. This means hundreds of children. [applause] There was an average of 310 patients a year. This data indicates how these units have improved and how well the health personnel are working.

Of the various groups, the breakdown is: neonatal, 32 percent; neonatal cases are always more difficult because the childbirth is premature. Infants, 45 percent; preschool, 15 percent; school-age children, 8 percent. Here are the most frequent, various illnesses: acute diarrhea, laryngotracheal bronchitis or laryngitis, neonatal septicemia, pneumonia, poisoning, craniocephalic trauma, neuroinfections such as neuroencephalitis, etc. These figures were handed to me as I was coming in here. I said that in our country, we give this treatment to all children. I feel that we did this primarily to transfer to you our experience in this. We know how a mother suffers when her child is seriously ill. Many of these children are saved. Most of these children would have died without this treatment. We wanted to make another unit in Sucre, and another in Santa Cruz. We were unable to continue on our own because we are a small country that was facing economic difficulties. However, the most important thing is to be aware of the technology that allows governments to do this. This should be the task of the government in all countries. I believe no province in Latin America should be without an intensive therapy center. This is truly a great help.

We also have the family doctor, who lives among the residents. Thus, all a resident has to do is go some 100 meters to knock on the door of the family doctor who lives there. They are very close. These are services that Cuba has developed and that some other countries are trying to develop. In Brazil, there are dozens of family doctor houses. In our country, almost 80 percent of the people already have family doctors. Despite our difficulties, the number of family doctors continues to increase. In other places, the number is beginning to decline. [sentence as heard] They are very useful.

We also have them in factories. There are doctors in the factories. There are doctors in the schools, not in all schools as yet, but in many. Little by little, we are providing the schools with family doctors. There are family doctors in the child-care centers. This gives tremendous health coverage to the people, which is why infant mortality is declining and life expectancy is increasing.

We also have a number of other institutions. Pediatric intensive therapy helps a lot. Prenatal analyses often discover illnesses that can be cured. We also have infant cardiovascular surgery, which helps a lot. We have what we call neonatal intensive care. This means that-....[pauses] The greatest danger is in the first few days, and if there is a special treatment given in those first few days, the number of deaths of both mothers and children declines.

We have been gradually providing all those services in our country. Many other countries could have done this and they did not, even though they had the resources, the money to do it. What happens to money? It is often lost; it disappears. How many lives could be saved, yet the enemies of the Revolution, the imperialists, talk to us about human rights, when so many things are happening, when they kill people through hunger and unemployment, when they approve their neoliberal policies, when they do all these criminal things. Yet Cuba, which has done so much for the human being, for health, and not just for health, but also for the well-being, the education of children, for the people in general, because we also have schools for adults. [sentence as heard] Cuba has made such an effort to find jobs for people, to seek equality and social justice, to eliminate discrimination. When there is an act of discrimination anywhere in the world, is that not a human rights violation? When a person is discriminated against for ethnic reasons because he is black or an Indian, or for any other reason, because the person is a woman. There is a great deal of discrimination against women in this world. [applause] They are not concerned about any of that.

What they [not further identified] have is an exclusively formal democracy. What can one ask of a person who cannot read or write? Vote for whom? Very often, those who cannot read or write are so intelligent that they know who to vote for, but as a rule, if they cannot read a book, if they cannot read a proclamation, how can they really say that they are voting? Then, it is necessary to wait until the votes are counted. [sentence as heard]

And then, comrades, the money that is needed for those elections! They say they respect the people's opinion, but they tell the people: Vote for this, and this, and this, just as if one were saying: Drink Coca-Cola, drink Coca-Cola, drink Coca-Cola. [laughter, applause] Then they say that the individual is free. What is the beggar, the poor, the indigent going to do? What rights do they have? What opportunities do they have? Yet, they are described as free and democratic. None of those horrible things happen in our country. [applause] Very often, at the polls, they change the votes [words indistinct]. Latin American history is full of cases of fraud. Yet, imperialism says nothing because imperialism is not interested in having the [words indistinct] be the ones who rule, in general. They prefer to implant systems, to divide the people into numerous fragments, and then they promote the success of those who are their greatest devotees.

There is a religion in the world. Have you not heard it mentioned? There are many respectable and honorable religions and there are others that consist of kneeling in front of the powerful. That is not a good religion. The religion that calls for kneeling before imperialism is not a good religion. Yet, there are many who practice that religion, which we should not call a religion just because

they get on their needs, because the whited sepulchers, and the hypocrites, and the Pharisees also got on their knees in the time of Jesus Christ. [applause, chanting of "Fidel, Fidel, Fidel."]

Christ had to cast them out of the temple with a whip. It is said that he cast the merchants out of the temple. How many merchants in this world need to be thrown out of the temple? [laughter] The Bible has very revolutionary teachings, like that one. What was Christ accused of? Of subversion for having cast the merchants out of the temple. If one is not careful, the merchants will cast the saints out of the temple, especially in these times in which money is deified, and money is everything. Make money, even if your neighbor is dying. Make money, even if you have to kill or poison your neighbor. Selfishness is preached and selfishness is the negation of man's nobility and generosity. What significance is there to having these children bring a notebook and some pencils for the Cuban children in the midst of the blockade? That is generosity. That is the negation of selfishness. What does it mean for one to suffer for others, and to be pained by the suffering of others? That is generosity. That is the negation of heroism [as heard].

Human justice negates selfishness. With selfishness, there cannot be justice, equality, or brotherhood. Not even in the bosom of a family can there be justice if one brother wants everything for himself, without concern for the others. What are we all? Are we not brothers? What should we want? We should want everything for everyone. We should all love each other as if we had been born of the same mother. Is it not said that after all, we are all descendents of Adam and Eve? I am, however, opposed to the slandering of Eve. [applause] If anyone stole the apple, it was a man, and may the men forgive me. [applause] Possibly, he was already a politician. [laughter] Now, women are being blamed.

I like the Bible a lot. I studied and read it a lot, but someone made a mistake, even if it is a printing error, [laughter] when he said it was Eve and not the guy who took the apple. [scattered applause]

Mankind was born and developed for brotherhood. A society in which brotherhood is not practiced is not a just society. A society in which there is no real equality cannot be just. It could not be called just. A society in which there is a beggar alongside a millionaire cannot be called a just society, nor can it be called a society that respects human rights. In the United States, there is a lot of talk about (?human rights), but it is not practiced at all. [applause] It is not practiced at all. [repeats] Millions of people live and sleep in the streets. There are old people who, in the winter months, pretend to commit a crime so as to be taken to police stations because they are given food at the police stations. They are not given food in the streets—what a society—but food is given at the police stations. In the police station they get warm. They do not get it in the streets, but they get it in the police stations. So they commit crimes. That is called a democratic country, a country that respects human rights.

You know that the Indians of that country were exterminated. They were exterminated. There are practically no more of them except on certain reservations. You know that in that country, they discriminate against Hispanics. The Hispanic must be scorned because he does not have pure Saxon blood. They treat men like horses at a racetrack because at racetracks, preference is given to the purebloods. [laughter] Those, who are not purebloods, are discriminated against. That is the democracy of imperialism.

We know how many homeless children there are in that country, how many children without a family, how many abandoned people. We know how they discriminate, and not only against the Latins for being Latin. A Latin cannot be a human being. An Indian cannot be a human being. The Indians were exterminated because they were considered to be animals. An African cannot be a human being. An African was supposed to work as a slave. That slavery was maintained for almost 100 years after the so-called Declaration of Independence. Today, they treat them like this: If a black is beaten to death in the streets, nothing is done to the policeman. So much so that there was an uprising in Los Angeles for a case in which (?policemen) were absolved of a crime. They were later convicted because as there were so many videos around; someone had made a video of the incident in which they were beating and killing a black U.S. citizen.

That is how justice is applied in those countries that are called democratic. None of those horrible things happen in our country. Yet, millions upon millions of lies have been written about our country because the owners of the international media deceive the people. They live on lies and they maintain their system on the basis of lies. They deceive the people and when they cannot continue deceiving the people, and it is increasingly difficult to deceive the people, they will not be able to maintain their hateful system [applause] and you have shown that it is not possible to deceive the people forever. Despite imperialism's monopoly control of the media, thousands, tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands, millions of people do not believe the lies. [applause, chanting of "Fidel, Fidel, Fidel..."] and when the lies are completely wiped out from the minds of men, when the minds of men develop the values of justice, equality, and brotherhood, then there will be no more imperialism. That day must come. That day will come. [applause] That deceit, that slavery cannot be eternal. Nothing has been eternal. The only eternal thing is goodness. The only eternal thing is morality. The only eternal thing is love, brotherhood, and solidarity among human beings because we were born for that and those are the lasting values. Vice, abuse, exploitation, crime, or lies cannot be the things that last. At least, we, men and women of this era, show that awareness is growing. Is this not so? [Crowd says: "It is so."]

Otherwise, how could this international meeting be possible between us, who are thousands of miles apart? How could your solidarity, your support for Cuba, your declarations, and your slogans be possible? From here in

the highlands, a very high place, it is said that to receive radio or television signals one has to be on a mountain, since you are on a mountain, your message will reach other parts of the world. [applause] You are citizens of Bolivia. Many people will have to say: Bolivia is fighting the blockade, even though it is thousands of miles away. Bolivia is in solidarity with the Cuban Revolution and the Cuban people. Bolivia supports Cuba's just cause and Bolivia must be heard. It must be heard. [repeats]

I believe it has indeed been heard. They have had no choice but to hear [applause] because you have made a point of ensuring that you are heard. Despite being on the high tableland, and thanks precisely to your large lungs and large heart, what you say is heard. What you shout is heard, and you have shouted marvelous things, [laughter] creative things, and moreover, very ethical things. When some delegations came here, you said: Support Cuba, support Cuba, help Cuba. To others, you said: Down with the blockade, down with the blockade, down with the blockade. To others, with a little less courtesy, but with a great measure of justice, you said: Cuba, yes; Yankees, no; Cuba, yes; Yankees, no. [applause, Crowd chants repeatedly: "Cuba, yes; Yankees, no."] You said that when the delegation of our Yankee neighbors came out [laughter]. We are neighbors over there and here also. [laughter] Well, everyone was lodged in this hotel. It is a five-star hotel that gives great service. As always, the guests receive the best. We also received the best; what we did not get is time to eat breakfast, lunch, and dinner. [laughter] The program was too tight.

When they came down and saw a little car with little flags with who knows how many stars and things....[pauses] Many of those stars were stolen from the sky. Those were states created by looting the wealth of other lands. [applause] When the people saw the stars they began to chant with those clear, diaphanous, energetic voices you have. I have been told, this is just among us, a private confidence, that the chief of the U.S. delegation was going to come down....[pauses] I use the more elegant term [United States] that circumstances demand, at least from me because I cannot stand on the street chanting: Cuba, yes, Yankees, no! [chuckling] I have to make history, which is something else. When they saw the flags they began shouting and the chief of the delegation had to go back inside. Then it was our turn to leave and they let us do so; but after a while, when the man with the stars and strips flag came down again, the chanting began again.

I was saying that if there had been a musical and choral performance contest, those in front of the hotel would have won the award. How did we feel? Red-faced. Our friends embarrass us. They know you are friends of Cuba and perhaps they blame Cuba. [laughter] We are trying to do the opposite. We are trying to put out fires. We did not need a fire engine here in La Paz because we were trying to put out fires. Some saw that there were signs and other things; at night there was a delegation or an embassy that put certain signs out there. We said: This is too much already! [laughter] Then they put up a sign saying: Welcome, John Doe. I do not mention any names because it would not be elegant here. [laughter] Welcome, John Doe.

Then we heard talk about burning signs and said: Oh, my God, if they burn the sign we are going to get the blame. [laughter] They are going to say that the Cubans are making a ruckus. We were praying, and keep in mind that we do not habitually pray, [laughter, applause] we prayed that the sign would not be burned down! [applause] If a photo is taken with a name going up in flames, they would start a fracas. You have earned a reputation for discipline and organization that we did not think was accurate. In addition to prayer, because God helps those who help themselves, we sent several friends to say: Please, do not burn any of those signs. You are going to put us in a very difficult position. But they have brains and what they did was write my name where it had read: Welcome, John Doe. [laughter] It is embarrassing to have to tell you this. It seems a sign of vanity on my part, but it is not my name, it is the name of Cuba, the Cuban delegation. That is what you meant when you wrote my name.

So that is all right. Excellent. Welcome, John Doe; and then, and then....[pauses, laughter] These are little snippets of gossip that we have heard. [laughter] Then, they [not further identified] said: Come see what they have done. They removed a name. Actually, the name was not removed, it was just covered up. [laughter] Then they said: Those are the acts of Marxists. To tell the truth, I have read some books by Karl Marx, but I never read that one should cover up signs with another person's name. [applause] It would have been more accurate to just say: Those are the acts of Bolivians. [laughter] Well, not acts of Bolivians because how are the Bolivians to blame? The Bolivians were like judges in a kind of international competition. Just like judges at the Olympics, they had to make decisions, right? If some people deserved a prize, the prize was awarded to them, and if what they won was to have their name covered up, [repeats] to have their name covered up, no, no, it is not me; I have not won any prize, I am talking about those, who won the prize of having their name covered up, [laughter] because they made a great effort to repeat, to become the echoes of the imperialist attacks. Well then, the people covered up the name, but they did not burn the banner. They kept the cloth and some day the cloth can be washed thoroughly and put to some good use. [laughter]

The anecdotes told about your creativity in these days are incredible. And from way up there, we were on the 10th floor...[pauses] I was fortunately able to come down to the first floor the first day. That is what I did, but my voice was still not loud enough. My voice would not carry. Then it was you who became loudspeakers, because you suddenly became so quiet that one could hear a fly buzzing. In these days, no one speaks like this. Where there are 500 people, a megaphone is needed. Yet there were thousands of people there chanting slogans,

talking, and shouting, and then there was total silence. It seemed a miracle because I was able to speak and you were able to hear me. One paragraph, right, then the noise resumed. A few minutes later, again total silence.

I had never seen such a thing, I assure you. I had never seen such discipline in a crowd, such conscientiousness. No one could have organized that. It was spontaneous. When the silences came, not a single person spoke. I have never seen that. I have not seen that in my country. Whenever there is a silence, somebody always shouts a slogan or something. Here, there was total silence. You gave proof of organization, communication, the ability to communicate mentally, discipline, and above all, courtesy. One has to see the politeness. That was one thing I noted among the masses: enormous, impressive politeness.

So I was able to deliver certain paragraphs, not a speech. When I explained that I had to leave, that other delegations had to come, you withdrew in complete order in a matter of a few minutes. Bolivians have impressed me with their courtesy, nobility, generosity, fighting spirit, and intelligence. One very notable thing that perhaps you have not realized, but people who have been in other places realize, is the incredible intelligence of the Bolivian people. In addition, one discovers that it is not true that those who live on the highlands are calmer and more passive. I have never seen more active people, [words indistinct] warmer.

Therefore, we have discovered extraordinary things. For this reason, we are leaving here truly impressed with the Bolivians. There is a Chinese proverb that says it is better to see something once than to hear about it a hundred times. In this case, the truth of the Chinese proverb was proven. [words indistinct] concept of Bolivians. At one to 100, it would seem that we still did not have the concept that the Bolivians deserve. I say it should be at least 10 to one. If we reduce the Chinese proverb to say that it is better to see once than to be told ten times, then we would agree.

At this point, we do not have to reduce percentages. We have to transmit to our people, and I am sure we will achieve this, all our impressions of you. Even though the millions of Cubans have not been able to come and see you here, they have heard about you, they have seen the television reports with photographs; and I understand, from our news dispatches from Cuba, that our people are moved and impressed with the warmth of the reception that I received on this occasion.

As I said before, you have waged a great battle. Your message must have reached all parts of the world. It has reached there and that says a lot. That influences the struggle against the blockade. It is converted into bullets fired at the conscience of the U.S. people because in North America, there is a growing number of U.S. citizens who are opposed to the criminal blockade despite the propaganda and the lies. Right now, on the border with Mexico, there is a group of Pastors for Peace who have been on a hunger strike for almost a week. Actually, more than a week. On a hunger strike because of a bus that they were bringing to Cuba. They were bringing medicine, food, and other things. They carried those things on their shoulders over the bridge. However, the authorities reportedly appeared and confiscated a bus that was to be sent to a religious center to be used for transporting children, the sick, and the elderly. The bus was confiscated and the Pastors for Peace said: No. Now over 10 Pastors for Peace members are there on a hunger strike, demanding that the bus be returned to them and they be allowed to cross the border.

Just think how ridiculous it is to confiscate the bus. They are waging a historic battle. Of course, the media are not covering that very much. They are not reporting on that; but your message is also reaching the U.S. people, the other Latin American peoples, and the peoples of the world. So you have given us an extraordinary helping hand in these days with your support, your attention, your vigorous and resolute opposition to the criminal imperialist blockade against our people, which even forbids exporting food, even a single (?dose) of medicine. If someone who is about to die in our country needs medicine that is in the United States, that person dies because that medicine cannot be obtained. It is forbidden. Yet they talk, I repeat once again, about human rights.

That is not all. They also sabotage our country's development, so that our country cannot obtain resources or means with which to acquire medicine, food, or technology. With all their strength, they sabotage the nation's development not just making their own laws, but also pressuring the entire world. They exert pressure on all countries in the world to keep them from trading with Cuba, on all the world's commercial enterprises to keep them from trading with Cuba.

They also pressure individuals, who want to invest in Cuba and who we accept under special period conditions. We have had to accept investments in partnership with the Cuban state because of the exigencies we are experiencing. They also prohibit this and threaten investors. Since it is so rich a country, with so much commerce and trade, they threaten to withhold their business from those who invest in Cuba. They practice an incessant persecution. You know they pressure the entire world.

There are things they do not like; when they do not like something they immediately exert pressure. For example, it seems that they did not like it at all that I was invited here. They do not like anything. They do not like it for you to be here but they cannot pressure you. [laughter] They did not like that you were in front of the hotel but they have no means of pressuring you. They cannot pressure the Bolivian people, nor is there a way of doing so. The masses, the people cannot be pressured. Yet, they meddle in everything. They have their finger in every pie. They do not miss a thing.

They never fail to protest when....[pauses] Some were protesting your gathering in front of the hotel. They complained that people were whistling at them. They were very sad that someone whistled at them. [laughter] It is not pleasant to be whistled at. Religion tells us: Forgive us as we forgive those who trespass against us. But to whistle at your enemy is really not a lack of forgiveness; it might even be an act of generosity and education, to teach them to behave properly so that some day they may earn their way into heaven. [applause, chanting] Harsher than hitting the Yankees hard would be sending them head first into hell! [applause] If they mend their ways, then at least, or perhaps at most, they will earn entry into purgatory.

This is why, my Bolivian brothers, we will never forget what you have done for us in this extremely hard and difficult moment for Cuba. You have given our people an injection of energy, you have increased its strength. We will never forget this. This is why from now on we will implement one of those generous ideas you developed: Cuban brother, you are already Bolivian. We could also say: Cuban brothers, we are all already Bolivians. Thank you very much. [applause]

New PCC Secretary Appointed in Guantanamo Province

FL1908183593 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] It was announced in a meeting of the provincial committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] in Guantanamo, chaired by Jose Ramon Machado Ventura and Julian Rizo Alvarez, that comrade Eugenio Cuevas Ibanez has been relieved as first PCC secretary in the province. The decision was taken in view of Cuevas' health problems. Cuevas' selfless and productive work was praised at the meeting, where it was announced that comrade Juan Carlos Robinson Agramonte, a member of the Central Committee and first PCC secretary in Guantanamo City, will occupy the post of provincial PCC secretary.

Equality Contrasted With Egalitarianism

FL1908170493 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Aug 93

["Straight Talk" program with host Juan Carlos Roque Garcia and guest journalist Luis Cesto]

[Excerpts] [Roque] The subject is: Equality and inequality. Why this topic?

[Cesto] I have asked myself if this subject is appropriate. It is true that it is in vogue. It cannot be denied that the decriminalization of hard currency has brought about a debate in which equality and inequality are opposite terms. It seems to me, however, that in a situation where the people are enduring shortages and material difficulties, a theoretical analysis might seem ironic if not pointless. Nevertheless, I am going to speak about equality and inequality. Talking straight is also a matter of audacity. I am convinced of this.

I going to begin by saying that equality has been a principle of the Cuban Revolution and, even more, an accomplishment that has benefitted the majority of the Cuban people. Even many of those abroad, who attack Cuba today, do so thanks to the education and professionalism they acquired in the equalitarian schools of the Revolution. What a paradox! I say this rather than what opportunism, what betrayal, and what ingratitude. Let them make a living in peace. That is not our subject today. I have my definitions of equality and inequality.

[Passage omitted including statements by unidentified individuals on equality and inequality]

[Roque] You mentioned that you have your own definitions of equality and inequality.

[Cesto] I do not want to seem so pretentious. I have the classical Marxist definitions. Equality is related to a position regarding the means of production, a position which, in turn, influences the distribution of social products.

[Roque] In your opinion, how does this manifest itself in Cuba?

[Cesto] At least in Cuba, equality is a relationship that puts all citizens on the same level regarding basic rights. In Cuba so far, equality has been the absence of significant differences in income and consumption. I will give you an contrasting example. What equality can you speak of when, in the United States, executives receive salaries 60 times higher than that of workers? I think this shows the extent to which equality has prevailed in Cuba.

[Roque] Let us speak about us. In the case of Cuba, egalitarianism has existed for many years. We cannot deny this.

[Cesto] That is a fact. Before discussing this, we could define egalitarianism. I believe egalitarianism is a distortion arising from the theory that there are no differences among individuals; and differences, certain differences are, of course, unavoidable even in socialism. The socialist distribution formula, that little formula that we all learnt in school: "From each according to his talents, to each according to his needs," acknowledges differences in human efforts and talents. Of course at times in the socialist society, which is undoubtedly an imperfect society, there is an attempt to confuse equality and egalitarianism, which distorts the fairness of socialist distribution. I believe that this confusion inhibits the margin of creativity of individuals and allows parasites to flourish.

[Roque] Then there are, as a matter of fact, differences in socialism.

[Cesto] Yes, there are differences that arise from differing labor, talent, and effort. Forgetting this has caused

unpleasant consequences for Cuba. Certain egalitarian distribution, certain social paternalism has put on the same level the good and the bad, the wise and the ignorant. Who has not seen, for example, at their work place that for years society has subsidized the inefficiency of many, who manage to seem busy but really are doing nothing? This might not be the must opportune moment, I warn you, to correct this mistake. Yet, look at food distribution: The efficient and dedicated worker receives the same as those engaged in profiteering, living off the needs of others. Of course we must distribute with equality. I would almost say, in an egalitarian manner under these circumstances of large material shortages. This is the difference between what happens in Cuba and what could happen in another country. Every economic measure has a political rationale because in Cuba, in socialism, the economy is political economy.

[Roque] In the last few days there has been a lot of talk about the differences created by the decriminalization of the possession of hard currency. Many even ask what will happen from now on because, as a matter of fact, there is going to be a noticeable difference between those who have dollars and those who do not.

[Cesto] This is why I said at the beginning that equality and inequality are the topics of the day. I think, however, this problem has to be analyzed rationally never emotionally. In a very strict sense, decriminalizing the possession of hard currency creates differences among individuals. Some will increase their income and consumption levels. Yet, did these differences not exist before the depenalization? Had the National Bank not authorized a group, certain categories of citizens ranging from officials, who travel abroad, to food industry workers, who work at tourist facilities, to own and spend hard currency?

[Roque] Of course, but it was not so noticeable because, as a matter of fact, now it is the law. It is legal and is going to be more noticeable because now a higher percentage of the population will have this advantage.

[Cesto] True, but let me finish. The problem existed and was exacerbated by the illegal circulation of dollars. The various aromas that entered my kitchen window made me aware of that difference. Take notice of this. In other words, the problem existed. The Revolutionary government has simply taken it by the hand to control and direct it and benefit the whole nation in the long term.

[Roque] This is something we all are aware of. It is a measure that, in large part, will permit a higher use of resources, in that what the decriminalization produces will be used to solve the problems of many, including those who are solving their personal problems.

[Cesto] Perhaps not to solve but to help solve.

[Roque] Fine, to help solve.

[Cesto] We also have to say the following at this point: We must, of course, distinguish between legitimate and illegitimate equality. For example, one asks himself: Is it legitimate for someone, who has a relative abroad, to receive the so-called family consignment? One can also ask: Is it fair, because many do not have relatives abroad or do not want to receive such consignments, to deny that universally recognized right to others? I believe it is evident that it is legitimate for a son to help his father, for a mother to help her son, and for brother to help brother. It is even more legitimate, if the country needs that money, as you were saying earlier, to increase its hard currency revenues and use it, for example, to buy the medicines every citizen needs. This is true equality.

[Roque] What happened is that over many years a mind set has been developing that everything coming from there should be rejected. This also has to be adjusted now with the beginning of the whole depenalization process. There will always be pros and cons. It is unavoidable.

[Cesto] That is probably material for another program. I want to say that because a few hundreds, or thousands, or millions, I do not know how many, will benefit from possessing hard currency, the rest of the citizens will not suffer from the lack of that resource, nor will they have to sell their dignity to a foreign tourist to make a living. I think it advisable to ask this question: Do you not think that the Revolution will make plans and take measures to guarantee fairer distribution, stimulate production, and strengthen domestic commerce?

No one will be abandoned. I believe this is not only a slogan but a reality in Cuba. There may be differences and they should be categorized as necessary differences in these circumstances. Equality also needs a material base, a wealth that can sustain it. When that is lacking, strict equality losses some of its traits; but egalitarianism is truly worse because it represents an inequality and discourages the best.

[Roque] Equality and inequality, a subject that a lot will be said about here on Radio Rebelde's Straight Talk. Do you think we can do a second program?

[Cesto] Yes, perhaps next week.

[Roque] I am sure our listeners appreciate our straight talk on this issue.

Haiti

Parliament Hosts Ministry Prospects

FL1908221693 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1800 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Report by Rothschild Francois, Jr., on the meeting between Prime Minister-Designate Robert Malval and the Chamber of Deputies confirmation committee in the parliament building, Port-au-Prince, 19 August—live]

[Text] Eyes are turned toward the Haitian Parliament involved in a process that should lead to the confirmation of the appointment of Robert Malval as prime minister.

The prime minister-designate is currently answering the questions of the members of the committee in charge of examining his file in the Chamber of Deputies. It is not yet known if the assembly of deputies will come to a decision today on this choice. Robert Malval was however invited to present his declaration of general policy this afternoon in the Senate, which on 18 August ratified his appointment, with 14 votes in favor and one abstention. Rothschild, you are at the Parliament; what is new?

[Begin live relay] Robert Malval is still being questioned in the parliament, in the Diplomatic Room, by the committee of the Chamber of Deputies in charge of studying his file.

The news today is the presence of several persons who must be part of the ministerial cabinet. Let us point out the presence in parliament of Louis Dejoie, who seems likely to become the minister of commerce; Victor Benoit for the Ministry of National Education; Marie-Michele Rey as finance minister; Francois Sevrin as agriculture minister; Rene Prospere as minister of the interior—I will point out to you that he is Mrs. Raoul Cedras' brother; Jean Moliere as minister of public health; Jean Beliotte for the Defense Ministry; and Attorney Guy Malary as justice minister. Other ministers must be part of the ministerial cabinet in case of Robert Malval's ratification, but they are not in parliament. We can mention Cherestal Jean-Marie for cooperation; Herve Denis as minister of information; Rosemond Pradel for transport and public works; and Mrs. Claudette Werleigh in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. At least eight of these people are in parliament, and Robert Malval is still being questioned by the committee in charge of studying his file.

It is most likely that the Chamber of Deputies vote will occur tomorrow. In any case, Robert Malval must wait for his confirmation by the Chamber of Deputies before he presents his declaration of general policy to the Senate of the Republic. For the moment, as you said, eyes are turned toward the parliament and we, who are here in the parliament, have our eyes on the Diplomatic Room where Robert Malval is being questioned by the committee members in charge of studying his file. Thanks. [end live relay]

Officials 'Skeptical' of Malval's Resignation Announcement

FL1908154593 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Excerpts] On 18 August the Haitian Senate ratified by 14 votes and one abstention President Jean-Bertrand Aristide's choice of Robert Malval as new prime minister. The Senate is also due to vote on the declaration of general policy of Malval, a 50-year-old businessman educated in the United States and France and a close adviser to Father Aristide. The Chamber of Deputies, which set up—not without difficulties—a multiparty committee in charge of examining Malval's candidacy, is supposed to vote on this choice and on approval or disapproval of the declaration of general policy.

It should be recalled that Malval has already announced his resignation for 15 December. Some parliamentarians are very skeptical and are wondering for to what post the general policy (?will apply). What will be the duration and the [word indistinct] of this general policy? A general policy for three months is not a serious one, according to parliamentarians opposed to Malval.

The ratification process is occurring as the Haitian Ministry of Commerce is informing the populace that the reserves of marketable fuel of the country have exhausted. [passage omitted]

The Senate committee studying Malval's files said it was satisfied after an in camera working session on 16 August. The Senate of the Republic invites the prime minister to appear at the Senate of the Republic at 0100 PM [1700 GMT] on 19 August for the presentation of [his declaration] of general policy.... [corrects himself] Well, it is on 20 August that he will have to present himself for the statement of his general policy.

Former Senator Robert Opont is protesting, asking the Senate of the Republic to correct such an error. Opont pointed out that to summon Malval to declare his general policy before his ratification by the lower chamber is a grave violation of Articles 137 and 158 of the Constitution. [passage omitted]

Malval Tax Status Questioned

FL1908214093 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Excerpt] Is Mr. Robert Malval, Senate-ratified, prime minister-designate, straight with the Haitian internal revenue service? This was the question asked by Senator Bernard Sansaricq of the special Senate committee in charge of studying Malval's file. This committee presented a favorable report on Malval.

Bernard Sansaricq, supported by his colleague Thomas Eddy Dupiton, made the following assertion: In 1990, Malval received from Jean-Robert Sabalat, president of the Provisional Electoral Council, a contract for $2.8 million. I must know whether he is straight with the Haitian internal revenue on this.

In response, several members of the committee pointed out to Sen. Sansaricq that to be straight with the Haitian internal revenue is not a mandatory constitutional criterion. Sen. Julio Larosiliere said that in the absence of a document proving that Malval is straight with the internal revenue, this issue cannot prevent the prime minister-designate's ratification.

The question, however, remains outstanding. [passage omitted]

Anti-Intervention Mobilization Called for 21-23 Aug

FL1908220093 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] A group of 15 mass organizations are calling for a general mobilization for the purpose of saying no to military intervention in Haiti. These organizations denounce, quote: the decision of the United States, of the United Nations, and the OAS to send a multinational force into the country under the fallacious pretext of assuring President Aristide's security.

According to these organizations, the real objective of this force is to protect the 30 September criminals, continue the work begun by the authors of the coup d'etat, and control the country's institutions in order to facilitate the application of the American plan for Haiti.

While demanding the immediate, unconditional return of President Aristide, the 15 organizations denounce the nationalistic demagogy of the coupists, who condemn foreign intervention while being responsible for anti-democratic actions against the people.

The People's National Assembly, one of the organizations that signed this document, announces a popular rally on 21, 22, and 23 August in Port-au-Prince.

Correction to Senate President Comments on Ratification

FL1908214193

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Senate President Malval on Ratification Process," published in the 19 August Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 3:

First paragraph, first sentence, reads... choice of Robert Malval as the new... (correcting name)

Jamaica

'Uncertainty' Surrounds Finance Ministry Appointment

FL1908214393 Bridgetown CANA in English 1820 GMT 19 Aug 93

[By Garfield Myers]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Aug 19, CANA—Six days after the dramatic resignation of Hugh Small as finance minister, uncertainty surrounds the staging of a by-election to ensure his designated "permanent" successor, Omar Davies, gains a seat in the House of Representatives. Under Jamaican law, only an elected parliamentarian can become finance minister. This precludes Davies, who is a senator. Pending the planned by-election, Prime Minister Percival Patterson has been serving as finance minister with the assistance of Davies who is a minister without portfolio.

Hopes that Small would have made way for Davies by way of resigning as member of parliamnent, evaporated Tuesday with an announcement from Small that he had no intention of vacating his seat. Small told a radio call-in programme that he was "under no pressure" from his South St. Catherine constituency executive to resign his seat. On the contrary, Small said the constituency leadership was insisting that he had a responsibility to continue.

According to the ruling People's National Party (PNP), general secretary Dr. Peter Phillips, the party will be deciding soon which elected parliamentarian will be asked to "step aside" to make way for Davies. Davies is a respected economist with a distinguished record as former director of the National Planning Agency and more recently the Planning Institute of Jamaica. But the latest developments have brought into sharp focus the role of members of parliament and the nature of parliamentary representation in Jamaica.

Political analysts suggest that the PNP could open itself to accusations of cynicism in its efforts to find a seat for Davies, particularly if it is done against the wishes of the incumbent parliamentarian and constituency suporters. It is now a virtual certainty that the PNP will meet no meaningful opposition in the proposed by-election.

The executive of the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) reaffirmed this week its previous commitment taken following the controversial March 30 general election, that it will not participate in any election until current efforts to reform the electoral process is completed.

The issue has provided the opposition with ample opportunity for a verbal broadside against the ruling party.

"It seems strange", declared the JLP's general secretary Ryan Peralto, "that with 52 members in the House of Representatives, the government has to go to these lengths to find a finance minister." And JLP chairman Bruce Golding claims that the whole epidsode shows that the ruling party is not democratic, but an "exclusive private club."

Said Golding: "If Mr. Small does not resign as a member of parliament, some other PNP MP who, only a few months ago was elected by the majority of his constituents, will be persuaded or forced to resign so as to create the need for a by-election. So much for the mandate which he was given by the electorate and which he could not possibly have yet fulfilled.

"But this is not all once such a resignation becomes effective, the democratic thing to do is for the party to consult with the local party organisation in the selection of a candidate. In this instance, this is not to be since its candidate has already been chosen by Patterson...."

Small, in his first public statement since his resignation became effective last Friday, said his departure from the cabinet did not reflect a "fracturing" of relations betweem himself and the PNP's leadership, but merely a "parting of ways" with his former cabinet colleagues. He said he would continue to give public service whether in or out of politics.

Small resigned as finance minister after disagreeing with a cabinet decision to alter the mechanisms governing Jamaica's foreign exchange system. Small argued that the cabinet's decision violated the government's two-year-old commitment to a liberalised foreign exchange market.

Patterson has vigorously rejected Small's contention, arguing instead that the government was totaly committed to foreign exchange liberalisation but had a responsibility to guard against uncontrolled devaluation of the currency.

Worried by the continuing slide of the Jamaican dollar which in the last seven weeks has slid from a U.S. dollar equivalent of 4.5 U.S. cents to four U.S. cents, with a resulting surge in prices, the government this week authorised a number of changes and initiatives.

They include an expansion of the list of foreign exchange dealers to include foreign exchange earners, a U.S.20 million dollar bond issue to attract hard currency, a return to the daily publication of each dealer's purchases and sales of foreign exchange, and continuing consultation between government and various private interests on foreign exchange policy.

President Salinas Emphasizes NAFTA Benefits

PA2008012893 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Azteca Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 19 Aug 93

[From the "Early News" newscast]

[Text] President Carlos Salinas de Gortari says the North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA] is a favorable opportunity for the entire continent.

[Begin Salinas recording] Mexico is not proposing the formation of a closed bloc but of mechanisms that will encourage greater exchanges among neighboring Latin American countries and, unquestionably, with Belize. NAFTA is a favorable opportunity, not only for the signatory countries but for the entire region. [end recording]

The Mexican president hosted a dinner in honor of Belizean Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel. He announced that Mexico and Belize will sign a framework agreement on commerce and investment, which will promote and regulate trade between the two countries.

[Begin Esquivel recording] Our joint effort will benefit our peoples and contribute to the region's development and harmony. [end recording]

Upon broaching the issue of instability in Central America, President Salinas mentioned that Mexico is determined to promote peace and justice in the region with full respect for the people's sovereignty. He underscored the need to enforce international law.

The Belizean prime minister on 18 August began an official three-day visit to Mexico. In his message to President Salinas, the prime minister referred to the conflict that exists between his country and Guatemala. He said that Guatemala's refusal to acknowledge Belize's independence has caused anguish to the Belizean people.

[Begin Esquivel recording, in English with simultaneous translation into Spanish] It is our hope that this is but a temporary setback and that the day is not far off when the Belizean people will be able to live in peace and equality with all their neighbors. [end recording]

Earlier in the day President Salinas and Prime Minister Esquivel held a private meeting in Salinas' office at the presidency, during which they discussed the bilateral agenda. The two governments subsequently issued a joint communique underscoring their pledge to continue the struggle against drug trafficking. They also agreed to make a greater effort to help Guatemala's refugees. Mexico expressed the resolve to support increased power supplies from southeastern Mexico to Belize.

Secretariat Condemns Occupation of Palace

PA2008031393 Mexico City XEQ Canal 9 Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 20 Aug 93

[Report by Ana Cristina Perez on the "Plenty of News" newscast; live relay by Mexico City XHTV Television Network]

[Text] Government Secretary Jose Patrocinio Gonzalez has condemned the violent incidents at the San Lazaro Legislative Palace. He said the incident will not disrupt Mexico's political life. Gonzalez said in a news conference that the Government Secretariat joins society in condemning the violent incidents at the Chamber of Deputies on 18 August.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] We must definitively condemn and regret that pressure groups are trying to disrupt the country's normal activities and set a precedent in the violation of the legislative premises, as well as in the immunity of the federal deputies, in which, by the way, all the country's political currents are represented. [end recording]

He said there is peace and social stability in the country. When public order in disrupted, as in this case, the authorities will always make sure the rule of law is guaranteed.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] In the cases in which there is abuse of authority, we are going to proceed vigorously with punishment of those responsible. We want to make it clear that those incidents correspond to people's behavior and not to the policies of a government characterized by its willingness to make room for the country's social coexistence and democratic process. [end recording]

He said the incident will not disrupt the federal electoral reform, the policies of the federal district, or the 1994 elections.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] It will not be disrupted because of the isolated actions of misguided groups that believe they will find solutions to their problems through violence, when they can always find the same through dialogue and understanding. [end recording]

He said judicial authorities will conduct the investigations and determine who is responsible for the incidents. Gonzalez Garrido said the Government Secretariat will not reprimand the Party of the Democratic Revolution because it does not have the power to do so.

PRD Denies Responsibility

PA2008035393 Mexico City XEQ Canal 9 Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 20 Aug 93

[Report by Jose Eduardo Campos on the "Plenty of News" newscast; live relay by Mexico City XHTV Television Network]

[Text] The Party of the Democratic Revolution, PRD, has denied any responsibility for the 18 August incidents at the San Lazaro Legislative Palace. PRD Secretary General Mario Saucedo held a news conference in which he stated his party's position with regard to the 18 August violent incidents at the Chamber of Deputies.

[Begin Saucedo recording] The violence was confined to breaking a glass door. I believe that is the extent of the damage. In addition, some of the organizations that participated in the action sprayed paint on some of the walls. The door will have to be relaced and the walls repainted, and those responsible should be punished. I understand that PRD members did not break the glass door or paint the walls. [end recording]

Marco Roascon, leader of an independent popular movement and member of the PRD Executive Committee, who took part in the action, admitted he participated in the march.

[Begin Roascon recording] In facing any investigation on the incident, we.... [pauses] I personally believe representatives should assume their responsibility in case of an investigation. [end recording]

PRD Secretary General Saucedo demanded punishment for those responsible.

[Begin Saucedo recording] Anyone who violated the law should be punished. [end recording]

Saucedo read a five-point document stating the PRD's position with regard to the incidents at the Chamber of Deputies:

1. The 18 August march from the Zocalo to the Chamber of Deputies was not organized by the PRD.

2. The reason for the march and the demonstrators' anger was the approval of amendments to the Civil Code affecting house rentals.

3. The media has published false reports blaming the PRD for the San Lazaro incidents and accusing Porfirio Munoz Ledo of promoting similar actions a few days earlier in Tepic, Nayarit.

4. The PRD supports and continues to support Mexicans in their struggle for their rights but demands that their actions be carried out within the legal framework.

5. There are attempts to link the PRD with the incidents at the Chamber of Deputies. The PRD has expressed willingness to participate in a dialogue on the electoral reforms.

Costa Rica

Ambassador to Washington To Remain in Post

PA2008021793 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Aug 93

[From the "Radio Reloj Newscast"]

[Text] Gonzalo J. Facio, Costa Rica's ambassador to Washington, will not resign because he has the support of President Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier and Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus. After meeting with Facio for almost two hours, Calderon Fournier said that differences had emerged over a letter signed by Ambassador Facio and the other Central American ambassadors, which upset Caribbean governments. Nevertheless, Calderon Fournier said the sole purpose of the letter was to defend the interests of Costa Rica and Central America and that there was never any intention of promoting our region's separation from the Caribbean Common Market or of causing problems for Caribbean countries.

President Calderon said a simple misinterpretation of the letter signed by the Central American and Dominican ambassadors upset the Caribbean countries. In response, the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry issued an explanatory communique, which was supported by the presidency. However, the president said, I must clearly establish that the communique does not at all undermine the confidence, respect, and affection the president of the republic and foreign minister feel toward Ambassador Facio Segreda, Calderon said. If one person has defended our national interests in an extraordinary manner, Calderon said, it is Don Gonzalo in Washington; if there is one ambassador of whom I am proud it is Don Gonzalo Facio, the president added.

Ambassador Facio, who arrived in Costa Rica on the afternoon of 17 August, denied having brought a letter of resignation to hand to the president during their 18 August meeting. I came, Facio said, to explain my position and the reason the letter was jointly signed by the Central American ambassadors, which was meant to defend the benefits our countries and Caribbean countries receive from the Caribbean Basin Initiative and the free trade treaty. Facio expressed satisfaction with the results of his conversation with President Calderon Fournier. He said the president had fully supported him and that he would be pleased to remain in his ambassadorial post.

Flatly denying any intention of resigning, Ambassador Facio said he would do nothing. I have things to say, Facio said, and I will say them, but I was not going to do anything without first talking to the president of the Republic, who appointed me.

Facio denied that he had strong differences with the foreign minister over foreign policy and added that they both have their own views but the president implements general policy. Meanwhile, Facio said he will support and promote Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus' candidacy for the OAS secretaryship because it is a Costa Rican candidacy.

Facio expressed concern because the Rerum Novarum [as heard] has said it will disqualify him. He said he is not sure if an official appointed by the Foreign Ministry can be disqualified by the Labor Ministry. Facio said: I am Costa Rica's defender because I am the country's diplomatic representative. I represent the country in talks with the U.S. Government. I do not know if someone can be accused or disqualified by the Labor Ministry if he has no ties whatsoever with that ministry and if he is not been named in any Labor Ministry discussion.

El Salvador

FMLN Reports Slaying of Party Member, Demands Inquiry

PA1908213193 San Salvador Radio Farabundo Marti Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Aug 93

[From the "Facing the Moment" Newscast]

[Text] On Thursday, 19 August, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, condemned the murder of Oscar Grimaldi, a member of the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces, who was gunned down early this morning. Mauricio Chavez of the FMLN Political Commission stated Grimaldi conducted political work abroad and later performed logistical support duties within the country.

[Begin Chavez recording] Oscar was an FMLN member for the past 10 or 12 years at least. He performed political work as an FMLN representative in Europe. Later, his work involved providing support to the military effort conducted by the FMLN during those years.

Comrade Grimaldi was captured in 1991 during a raid in which weapons belonging to the FMLN were found. He was granted amnesty within the framework of the signing of the peace agreements and released from jail. He always conducted political activities as an FMLN militant. This is his background. [end recording]

We thank Mauricio for this information.

[Begin Chavez recording] I would simply like to add that this morning we will demand a thorough investigation of this case. We believe this is a very serious incident affecting the peace process. We regard it as an act of provocation, a senseless act that brings mourning to another Salvadoran family. Comrade Grimaldi leaves three orphans. It seems there are people in the country who insist on committing acts of violence, which are totally out of context. As FMLN, we will demand a thorough investigation. The government will have to respond [word indistinct] the results of the investigation. [end recording]

FMLN Seeks Information on Disposition of Seized Weapons

PA2008002193 San Salvador Radio Farabundo Marti Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Report by Flor de Maria Aleman; from the "Facing the Moment" newscast]

[Text] On 18 August, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], which is now a political party, demanded the Salvadoran Armed Forces must reveal the whereabouts of over 7,000 weapons seized from guerrillas during the civil strife. Douglas Santamaria of the FMLN said his party is concerned because it is possible those weapons were sold or given to criminal gangs. FMLN leader Miguel Saenz said the failure to explain the weapons' whereabouts also creates a potential danger.

[Begin Saenz recording] This is an election period. Caches with these weapons may turn up at any time during the election period within the framework of the current smear campaign against the FMLN. Since there are no guarantees regarding the weapons' whereabouts, and since [words indistinct] they can easily be taken anywhere to make them look like an FMLN cache. [end recording]

The chief objective of the FMLN in finding out what's been done with the seized weapons is to contribute to the peace process and allay public concerns. The Armed Forces, therefore, have a moral and political obligation to clear this matter up. He added those weapons must be be taken care of.

[Begin Saenz recording] We recommend that those weapons, totalling over 7,000 according to our estimates, be presented and delivered to Onusal [UN Observers for El Salvador] for destruction. These weapons belong to the FMLN. To allay public concerns, those weapons must be destroyed to really contribute to the stabilization and consolidation of peace. [end recording]

The FMLN said the inventory of weapons seized by the army has already been submitted to the Copaz [National Commission for the Consolidation of Peace] subcomission and will also be submitted to the United Nations so that the appropriate steps may be taken.

URNG Leader Comments on Peace Process, Guatemala

PA1908154493 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 16 Aug 93 p 7

[Text] Luis Becker Guzman, leader of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG], has said the URNG is studying the way in which peace agreements are being implemented, the results obtained, and the way in which political parties are behaving in El Salvador. Becker added that the recent coup d'etat in Guatemala was an attempt by the military to block peace negotiations in his country.

"We are interested in the Salvadoran process because it sheds light on our path. Although the two processes are different, they share many common elements. The process by which a political solution has been applied to the Salvadoran conflict stands as a lesson," Becker added.

"We will see what results are obtained here," Becker pointed out. He showed interest in learning about the work of the National Commission for the Consolidation of Peace, as well as interest in learning about the progress achieved by the forum for economic-social consensus.

Becker said: "If possible, I would like to meet with leaders of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and personalities and representatives of political groups comprising various ideological persuasions to hear both sides, and even meet with the church."

In commenting on the role of the Guatemalan Armed Forces in his country's peace process, Becker said, "its power structure has remained untouched," adding that the pacification of Guatemala "will not depend on time as much as on the political will" of Guatemalan President Ramiro de Leon Carpio.

He pointed out that his country has political parties that are only "center-right and rightist, and this is as far as the political spectrum of Guatemala will stretch." Becker added that De Leon should seek the support of democratic segments of Guatemalan society and rely on the strength of the people and not on traditional groups.

He said De Leon "could have political will, but the Army structure remains intact, and he must overcome the limits imposed by the Army. He has the opportunity to seek support among civilian and popular sectors, leaving behind the traditional oligarchy and Army hierarchy."

Becker noted it was possible the Guatemalan military was annoyed by the progress "the Salvadoran people achieved" in overcoming army impunity.

"Impunity is the element that keeps military schemes cohesive. They were frightened to hear people talking about human rights and about the Truth Commission, and they decided to disrupt the process," Becker said in reference to the coup staged by former President Serrano.

He said, "They view this as a political affront." Becker added that the motive "behind the coup d'etat staged by Serrano was the destruction of the negotiation process."

President Swears in Ministers

PA2008042293 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Aug 93

[From the "Up to Date Newscast"]

[Text] President Alfredo Cristiani has sworn in four new public officials in a ceremony held at the Government Palace. At this ceremony, attended by Presidency Minister Dr. Oscar Santamaria, Cecilia Gallardo de Cano

was sworn in again as education minister. Gallardo de Cano returned to her post after aspiring to run for vice president on the Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance] ticket.

In addition, Maria Teresa Orellana de Rendon was sworn in as deputy planning minister. In the same ceremony, Federico Miguel Uguez Rivera and Manuel Gutierrez were appointed as principal and alternate representatives of the Economy Ministry, respectively, before the Board of Directors of the National Council of Technological Sciences.

Guatemala

Army Quiet About President, URNG Differences

PA2008002693 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 18 Aug 93 p 2

[Text] The Army does does not discuss political topics, Army Spokeswoman Major Edith Vargas de Marroquin stated in declining to comment on the recent controversy between the leaders of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) and President Ramiro De Leon Carpio and the commitment of each side to the achievement of peace.

"It is up to President Ramiro De Leon to comment on this matter. The military institution stays on the sidelines because it is not a political institution," she noted.

President De Leon and Luis Becker Guzman, a member of the URNG Political-Diplomatic Commission, each spoke yesterday about the other's lack of commitment to the peace process in Guatemala, which has been "ravaged by 32 years of civil war."

Maj. Vargas denied the Army had begun a major military offensive in strife-torn areas as URNG Commander Rolando Moran charged on the "Free Encounter" program hosted by businessman Dionisio Gutierrez. "The combat operations are taking place as before. They have been constant, but the rebels are militarily weak," she indicated.

According to the army spokeswoman, the guerrillas are focusing on the ideological front. She added that the counterinsurgency activity "is nothing special." She also confirmed the military's presence will be reinforced along on the border between Belize and Guatemala to increase protection of the Maya biosphere and to combat drug trafficking.

Honduras

Foreign Minister on Ortega's Border Problem Remarks

PA2008041593 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Report by Jose Rolando Sarmiento on "The Morning Paper" newscast]

[Text] Sandinist Army Commander Humberto Ortega has said the Nicaraguan Army cannot reduce its troops or weapons because Nicaragua has a territorial dispute with Honduras. We understood, however, that this dispute was settled with the 1906 arbitration and that this decision was confirmed in the final ruling of the International Court of Justice in November 1960. Foreign Minister Mario Carias Zapata confirmed this.

[Begin recording] [Carias] We were surprised to learn about reports published by international news agencies on 18 August. We are demanding an explanation from the Nicaraguan Government through the Nicaraguan ambassador in Tegucigalpa, as we must review the text and context of the statement made by General Ortega, who is a high-ranking Nicaraguan Government official.

Really, as you said, there is no border dispute pending between Honduras and Nicaragua. The common borders were defined in agreements signed by the Mixed Border Commission and the Spanish king's 1906 decision. Maritime problems are mainly related to fishermen or the use of resources. Any difference on maritime areas can be resolved through dialogue between the maritime commissions of both countries.

Therefore, we believe General Ortega's statement was unfortunate. The fact that he made that statement at a Central American and Latin American forum makes it even worse because it implies that there are problems between Honduras and Nicaragua. We are all aware that there have been actions involving the armed forces inside Nicaragua. As we have said before, however, those are internal problems for Nicaragua. Neither the Honduran Government nor the Honduran people want to meddle in those internal affairs. We protect our borders precisely because we do not want to get involved. We believe that Nicaraguans should resolve their own problems through political negotiations, dialogue, and respect for the law.

[Sarmiento] Gen. Ortega's remarks seem to refer to actions by armed groups at the border, however, those groups definitely moved away from Honduran territory in April 1990.

[Carias] That is correct. We have repeatedly said this. Since President Rafael Callejas was candidate for the National Party of Honduras, he expressed his desire to eliminate any skepticism or accusations in the sense that Honduran territory could be used as refuge for military or paramilitary actions against the Sandinist Government, which was the Nicaraguan Government at the time. We have firmly maintained that position since 27 January 1990.

As you may recall, President Callejas sent Honduran Air Force planes to transport a delegation from the Nicaraguan Government-elect, headed by President Violeta Chamorro, Cardinal Obando y Bravo, and leaders of the Nicaraguan contras, through efforts in which the U.S. Embassy participated. In March 1990, the historical

Toncontin Pact, which marked the beginning of the demobilization and peace process in Nicaragua, was signed here.

So you can see that the Honduran Government has significantly and consistently contributed to the peace process and normalization of the situation in Nicaragua and Central America. Therefore, we believe any speculation that Honduras could be a cause of problems, differences, or arguments for not reducing the Nicaraguan Army, or for that Army to act in one way or another, is most unfortunate. We cannot accept being used as a pretext to make speculations of that nature.

[Sarmiento] In the specific case of the Gulf of Fonseca, there have been incidents involving fishermen and fishing activities. We understand that during the most recent meeting of the CA-4 group [Central American 4: Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador], the Honduran, Nicaraguan, and Salvadoran presidents signed agreements to permit joint patrols by their naval forces. As far as we know, they did not mention any friction.

[Carias] We have indeed overcome misunderstandings that could have existed in 1992, when the Nicaraguan ambassador to the Court in The Hague tried to question Honduran sovereign rights in the Pacific Ocean and its rights over the Gulf of Fonseca. Those misunderstandings no longer exist. Conditions are different now.

As you said, the declaration signed by the presidents of El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Honduras, with the Guatemalan president as an honorary witness, created a new atmosphere of cooperation and a new framework for concerted agreements on the Gulf of Fonseca, in order to make good use of its resources and protect the environment. The Armed Forces were instructed to conduct combined and joint patrols to prevent problems in the gulf. We understand that very soon, if not this week then next week, the navy commanders will meet to implement this agreement. In the same manner, the Foreign Ministries and other ministries, including the Ministries of Natural Resources and Environment, as well as the naval forces, will meet in September to install the trinational commission, which will be in charge of implementing those agreements. [end recording]

Nicaragua

Recompa Group Kidnaps Delegation; Demands Ortega Ouster

PA1908210693 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 19 Aug 93

[From the "Radio News" newscast]

[Text] "Radio News" has contacted EPS [Sandinist People's Army] press chief Milton Sandoval for the Army's reaction to the kidnapping of the Special Disarmament Brigade, BED, delegation.

[Begin Sandoval recording] This morning a negotiating commission, led by the BED chief, was kidnapped in the area of Caulatu, near (El Zingano), by a recompa group headed by El Chacal [Jose Angel Talavera]. The commission was composed of BED Chief Lieutenant Colonel Ramon Ernesto Sosa, Deputies Carlos Gallo and Doris Tijerino, a PLI [Independent Liberal Party] deputy, an UNO [National Opposition Union] deputy, a MAS [expansion unknown] delegate, a Social Action Ministry delegate, an INRA [National Institute for Agrarian Reform] delegate, and 12 BED officials accompanying the delegation.

The first demand the recompa groups has issued is the immediate dismissal of EPS General Humberto Ortega and Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo. They are also calling for a high-level negotiating commission that will answer their main demands.

[Unidentified reporter] How will the EPS react to this kidnapping by El Chacal?

[Sandoval] Well, currently the EPS is taking the necessary measures in order to gather all pertinent information on the kidnapping. At the same time it is keeping the government informed of every development and also awaiting executive branch instructions.

[Reporter] In any case, the decision to negotiate is in the hands of the president of the republic, is it not?

[Sandoval] Exactly, it is the executive branch's hands. Correct. [end recording]

Chamorro Condemns Hostage Situation

PA2008022393 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0101 GMT 20 Aug 93

[Text] Managua, 19 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Today, Thursday, Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro condemned the kidnapping of some 30 officials, civilian and military, and three Nicaraguan parliamentarians, and sent approximately 400 soldiers to the area where the hostages are being held near the Honduran border.

"This is no time for kidnappings," Chamorro emphasized after reiterating her call to the rearmed individuals to lay down their weapons and thus contribute to peace and reconciliation in this Central American nation.

At the same time, a military contingent of approximately 400 soldiers supported by armored vehicles and helicopters moved toward northern Nicaragua tonight, according to scenes broadcast on private Nicaraguan television stations. The troops were sent even though the kidnappers belonging to the 3-80 Northern Front, led by chieftain Jose Angel Talavera alias "Chacal," warned Chamorro that if the the Army launches an offensive against them, they will kill the hostages.

"I heard about that," Chamorro answered when asked by reporters to confirm if the "recontras" are demanding the dismissal of her son-in-law, Antonio Lacayo, from

the post of minister of the presidency, and General Humberto Ortega, chief of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS), in order to release the hostages.

Meawhile, Jose Adan Guerra, Nicaraguan deputy minister of the presidency, reported that the government is trying to establish contact with the rearmed groups through the EPS and the police, as well as through persons proposed as mediators. When asked if the government is willing to negotiate with the kidnappers, Guerra pointed out that he did not want to comment "because we are working on a very delicate issue with human lives at stake." Guerra added that Joaquin Lovo, deputy minister of government, was trying to contact Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, archbishop of Managua, whom the kidnappers requested to mediate, tonight. The rearmed ones are also requesting that the mediation commission include poet Pablo Antonio Cuadra, director of the daily LA PRENSA, and economist Francisco Mayorga, formner president of the Central Bank.

Guerra emphasized that the kidnapped officals, most of whom are members of the eight institutions linked to the government's Social Cabinet, went to northern Nicaragua to explain to the rearmed individuals the programs that are being developed and will continue to be carried out for for their disarmament.

Sandinist Deputies Doris Tijerino and Carlos Gallo and Liberal Deputy Anibal Martinez accompanied the officials. Martinez, according to the latest reports, was freed by his captors. According to reports not yet confirmed by government officials, Deputy Martinez, who is a member of the National Opposition Union, was freed in order to convey a message from the rearmed rebels of the National Salvation Democratic Front to the government. The group is also called the "3-80" Northern Front in memory of Contra leader Enrique Bermudez, a former Somozist Colonel who was murdered in Managua in February 1991. The abductors also freed three Sandinist journalists, who had travelled to the northern part of the country to cover the government officials' visit.

The rearmed rebels made the same demands as the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, which also demanded the removal of Ortega and Lacayo during a meeting with President Chamorro on 18 August. Lacayo today made a short official visit to El Salvador.

The rebels are also holding Lieutenant Colonel Ernesto Sosa and Major Ivan Portocarrero, the chief and the deputy chief of the Special Disarmament Brigade, along with 12 members of the brigade, which is tasked with verifying demobilization and disarmament of armed groups. According to local radio stations, among the hostages are Deputy Labor Minister Mario Garache and other high-ranking officials of the Social Action Ministry and the Nicaraguan Agrarian Reform Institute.

The abduction took place two days after the legislature approved a "broad-based" amnesty for all rearmed rebels operating in the northern and central regions of the country.

Daniel Ortega, the highest-ranking Sandinst leader and former president of Nicaragua, condemned the mass kidnapping, which he called a "cowardly" act, and encouraged all political and social forces to reject the action. He also demanded that the rebels free all hostages immediately and unconditionally.

President Asks Cardinal To Mediate

PA1908235693 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2200 GMT 19 Aug 93

[From the "Five O'Clock Sharp" newscast]

[Text] Here is a last minute report. We have just confirmed from very informed sources at the presidential palace that the government is requesting the mediation of His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo to solve the hostage situation involving high-ranking government officials and deputies.

We tried to contact Dr. Jose Adan Guerra, deputy minister of the presidency and secretary of the president of the republic, inasmuch as Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo and the government minister are out of the country and scheduled to return this afternoon from San Salvador.

Carlos Torres has an update now. Go ahead, Carlos Torres.

[Torres] Yes, we continue with our reports on the events that began early this morning when government officials and deputies of the Nicaraguan parliament were kidnapped by members of the Nicaraguan Resistance, Command 3-80, led by Commander Chacal [Jose Angel Talavera]. We want to read again the list of the persons who were kidnapped: Engineer Ramon Ernesto Sosa; Major Juan Portocarrero; Captain (?Giovanni Perez); Deputy Carlos Gallo; Doris Tijerino; Anibal Martinez; Manuel Espinoza Enriquez, director of "Extravision" television program; and Fernando Sanchez. The list also includes Nora Arguello, an assistant in the Social Action Ministry; the director of the (?PLA program); the deputy minister of labor, and 20 members of the Special Disarmament Brigade.

According to radio broadcasts we have monitored, the hostages have been taken from Caulatu, Quilali, to El Jicaro, where they are being guarded by members of Command 3-80.

FSLN Condemns Kidnapping

PA2008041293 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 0330 GMT 20 Aug 93

[Text] Daniel Ortega, secretary general of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] party, has said his

party condemns El Chacal's [Jose Angel Talavera] request that his brother Humberto Ortega be removed as Army commander in exchange for the release of two Sandinist deputies and Liberal Deputy Anibal Martinez. Here is the FSLN party's communique read by Daniel Ortega:

[Begin Ortega recording] [Words indistinct] members of the Agriculture and Construction and Transportation Ministries. The peace commission was headed for a meeting with leaders of the 3-80 Northern Front to facilitate their reintegration into civilian life under the recently approved Amnesty Law. That meeting had been set with members of the 3-80 Northern Front members. Thus, the kidnapping by those who had agreed to hold this meeting is doubly condemnable.

It focuses our attention on the kidnappers, who besides threatening to kill the kidnapped, are requesting the establishment of a negotiating commission comprised of Cardinal Obando y Bravo, Pablo Antonio Cuadra, and Francisco Mayorga. They also demand the dismissal of General Humberto Ortega and Antonio Lacayo.

The FSLN National Directorate condemns this criminal action and urges the Nicaraguan people, all political forces, religious leaders, and [word indistinct] to reject and condemn those who are acting in a cunning and cowardly manner while taking advantage of the negotiators' goodwill. The FSLN demands the unconditional and immediate release of all the kidnapped and the demobilization and disarmament under the framework of law.... [interrupted in progress by station]

Rebels Release Kidnapped

PA2008002893 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2216 GMT 19 Aug 93

[From the "Five O'Clock Sharp" newscast]

[Excerpts] Carlos Torres, a member of the "Five O'Clock Sharp" news staff, just called us from CIAV-OAS [International Commission of Support and Verification] headquarters to report that it has been confirmed that the 3-80 Northern Front rebels released journalists Jorge Catin and the BARRICADA representative. They said they did not want to hold the journalists hostage and have released them. Journalist Carlos Torres, chief editor of "Five O'Clock Sharp" newscast has the following report:

[Torres] Dear Radio Corporacion listeners, we have a last minute report for "Five O'Clock Sharp" newscast that the people kidnapped by the 3-80 Commando were transferred from Quilali to El Cipote del Jicaro. This is an official report we have just obtained.

Meanwhile, representatives of the Nicaraguan Human Rights Association [ANPDH] are looking into travelling to the incident site. They plan to intervene with the former Nicaraguan Resistance fighters, led by Commander Chacal.

In the meantime, we have been informed that all those kidnapped, two journalists have just been set free. They are one BARRICADA reporter and Jorge Catin of "Extravision." However, "Extravision" newscast director Manuel Espinoza Henriquez is still among those being held captive, together with Ramon Ernesto Sossa; Carlos Gallo, chairman of the National Assembly Human Rights Commission; Doris Tijerino; Fernando Sanchez; Dora Arguello, representative of the Social Action Ministry; and the deputy labor minister. [passage omitted]

Commander Chacal is demanding that Pablo Antonio Cuadra mediate in the conflict [words indistinct] Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, and Dr. Francisco Mayorga. He demanded that they form a mediating commission to solve the conflict that erupted a few moments ago. We will have more reports as events warrant. Now, back to the studio.

[Announcer] We just established communication with BARRICADA's editorial room and they have informed us that the journalists who represented BARRICADA in the group that was kidnapped on 19 August by the 3-80 Northern Front consist of Juan Ramon Huerta and Elisa Maturana. Meanwhile, "Extravision" was represented by Jorge Catin, the cameraman, and news director Manuel Espinoza. But Juan Ramon Huerta, Elisa Maturana, Jorge Catin, and "Extravision" cameraman were released. They are presently in Quilali. We hope to establish communication with them any minute.

Human Rights Center Condemns UK Frigate Incident

PA1908215893 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0132 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Managua, 18 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—On Wednesday, the Nicaraguan Human Rights Center (CNDH) "energetically" condemned a British frigate's assault against a Nicaraguan vessel that was fishing in Nicaraguan territorial waters in the Caribbean Sea.

At the same time, the pro-Sandinist CNDH called on President Violeta Chamorro's government to "defend our sovereignty, as is its duty," as well as to encourage any action and international protests the incident may call for.

According to the CNDH, the siege against the fishing boat Corsario "is a belligerent affront against our territory and sovereignty, as well as an attempt against the six (Puerto Cabezas) fishermen travelling on the vessel." The CNDH indicated that the British frigate threatened the Nicaraguan fishermen with death by coming within 30 meters of the small fishing boat.

An official source indicated the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry is preparing a protest note on the incident which will be made public during the next few hours. Newspaper reports, made public tonight and quoting

Foreign Ministry sources, indicate that the British frigate had not been authorized to enter Nicaraguan territorial waters.

Sandinist People's Army spokesman Captain Eduardo Molina disclosed that the warship Cumberland was taking part in antidrug maneuvers in the Caribbean Sea along with U.S. antidrug vessels.

Ministry Protests Frigate Incident

PA1908192993 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] We have recently received a press note from the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, which says the following:

Nicaragua hereby forwards a protest note to the United Kingdom and the United States as a result of both countries having intercepted a Nicaraguan vessel.

Today, the Republic of Nicaragua's Foreign Ministry sent a protest note to the UK and U.S. Embassies in Managua as a result of the presence of the UK frigate E-75 [as heard] in this country's territorial waters that [word indistinct] against the sea vessel Corsario, which was flying a Nicaraguan flag.

The government of the Republic of Nicaragua maintains the position that any act of interception or repression against any seagoing vessel travelling in this country's territorial waters can only be executed by the appropriate Nicaraguan Government authorities. At the same time the note points out that Nicaragua has not authorized third-party states to proceed with this type of activity in Nicaraguan waters.

Likewise, the note expresses that actions relating to cooperation established in international agreements in the struggle against drug trafficking, Nicaragua being a signatory, do not authorize nor can they be interpreted as allowing seagoing vessels of third-party states to undertake actions such as the one carried out against the Corsario.

The note clarifies that the [words indistinct] in no way alters the Nicaraguan Government's firm commitment to cooperate with third-party states in the struggle against illegal drug trafficking. Nicaragua will always be willing to offer its utmost cooperation within the framework of its internal laws and agreements in effect.

The Foreign Ministry concludes by expressing its deepest concern over the incident and requests an explanation of what happened and assurances that it will not be repeated.

[Dated] Managua, 18 August, 1993

Assembly Declaration Rejects Aid Cutoff by U.S. Senate

PA1908222593 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 19 Aug 93

[From the "Radio News" newscast]

[Text] This morning the Legislative Assembly approved a declaration rejecting the cutoff of economic aid to Nicaragua, as sponsored by U.S. Senator Jesse Helms. The declaration was approved by all the deputies present except Alvin Guthrie Rivers, center deputy from the South Atlantic Autonomous region. Guthrie confirmed [words indistinct] Nicaragua's democracy has nothing to do with the Santa Rosa weapons cache, as the U.S. senators, led by Helms, have been demanding.

Along these same lines, Deputy Sergio Ramirez Mercado, the Sandinist faction leader, referred to the FBI presence in Nicaragua for an investigation of the weapons cache issue. Ramirez said the FBI could brief the senators on this matter. Here is what Ramirez said:

[Begin Ramirez recording] At no time is the Legislative Assembly asking, requesting, demanding, or begging the U.S. Senate to restore aid to Nicaragua. I believe that a declaration of this nature should not be an entreaty. We accept the fact that this is a poor, destitute, and destroyed nation. Nicaragua needs that money. For 10 years the United States invested billions destroying this nation's economy. Our case before the International Court of Justice in The Hague was withdrawn by this same Legislative Assembly once $18 billion was fixed as payment for damages caused to Nicaragua. None of this is being taken into account here.

It seems despicable for the Legislative Assembly to beg the U.S. Government to not take away Nicaragua's aid even though the Nicaraguan Government and the Nicaraguan people have a right to it. What the Legislative Assembly is demanding through this declaration is simply that the United States not interfere in Nicaragua's internal affairs.

Through this action, Senator Jesse Helms is implicitly supporting, aiding, and assisting people of his ideological bent within Nicaragua. He prevailed in the U.S. Senate and the bill was approved. This is an act of old revenge by Jesse Helms because he was not able to win the military war in Nicaragua, nor was he able to blow off the heads of everyone he wanted to. Senator Jesse Helms, sponsor of this bill, told the U.S. media on 23 January 1990 that it made no difference to him who won the elections, Ortega or Chamorro, because to him they were the same; both were agents of international communism. These statements were published by THE WASHINGTON POST, where anyone can look them up.

Thus, before elections were ever held and before this government even took office, Senator Jesse Helms, emerging from the Jurassic era like the dinosaurs in that

last Spielberg film, already had a specific agenda on Nicaragua. He wanted to bring this nation to its knees; he wanted it destroyed. Now he is trying, unfortunately with the support of other U.S. senators, to sink Nicaragua's economy. I believe we must be very clear on this matter. Therefore, this declaration simply protests and rejects interference in Nicaragua's internal matters. [end recording]

More Lacayo Comments on U.S. Visit, Army Basic Law

PA2008004393 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 14 Aug 93 p 8

[Report by Aura Lila Morenoj

[Text] Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo has announced that the Executive Branch will send Army Basic Law bill to Congress soon. He confirmed that the bill includes placing military intelligence agencies under the Presidency of the Republic.

"The bill will be sent to the National Assembly because it can no longer be delayed," Lacayo said upon returning from Miami, where he met with Alexander Watson, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs.

According to Lacayo, the government tried to present the bill to political, labor, and business forces during the latest national dialogue, but "this was not possible because of the lack of willingness by some of the groups participating in the dialogue," particularly the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, COSEP, and the Political Opposition Alliance-National Opposition Union, APO-UNO.

Transition Period

The Army Basic Law will determine not only the term for the commander in chief, but will also establish a transition period, which will make clear how long General Humberto Ortega will remain in that position.

"We must establish the fundamental guidelines for the Army through laws based on a broad national consensus," Lacayo stressed, adding that in addition to regulating the term for military commanders, the law will also place intelligence services under the Presidency of the Republic.

In that regard, Lacayo said that intelligence services will continue working as a basic part of the Sandinist People's Army, EPS, but its director will be directly under the Executive Branch, as in Spain and the United States. "We have been telling the United States for a long time that we want to follow Spain's example, which has been successful, with regard to civilian-military relations."

We Give More Than We Receive

On another subject, Lacayo admitted that Nicaragua has paid more in foreign debt service to international financial institutions than it has received from them during the past three years. Therefore, in September Nicaragua will show those organizations that "they fell short" in their estimates of reconstruction costs in the country. "It is senseless to have institutions, which should be contributing to our reconstruction, taking away instead of giving us funds," Lacayo said, adding that "we really cannot reconstruct our country that way."

Lacayo insisted that his economic program is still viable, as long as there are enough funds to keep the currency stable and start the expected economic takeoff. He noted, however, that should the evaluation being conducted by the economic cabinet "show that some aspects of economic policy need to be corrected, focused in a different direction, or adjusted, we will do it."

Gringos Have Big Doubts

In summing up the results of his meeting with Watson, Lacayo said the meeting was "very fruitful," as "we agreed to maintain open channels of communication between two friendly governments." According to Lacayo, Watson said there is concern among U.S. congressional sectors that Nicaragua could be harboring international terrorism.

During the meeting, Lacayo expressed concern about the government's lack of financial resources for the country's reconstruction. He also noted that the report to Watson only described the findings at the Santa Rosa arms cache and the results of the government investigations into the explosion.

According to Lacayo, the United States is clear about the role played by military intelligence services during the three years of Violeta Chamorro's government. "What they do not have clear is whether intelligence services knew about the weapons caches; if so, why this was not reported before, and if they did not know, why they were so inefficient," he explained.

"We Are an Antiterrorist Government"

After reiterating that the government will soon present a clean image to the Nicaraguan people and the international community, Lacayo warned that should investigations find that intelligence officers knew about the arms caches or about any international terrorist network, "they will not only be removed from their posts, but they will go to jail."

In any event, Lacayo said he hopes that by the time the U.S. Congress resumes sessions on 8 September and begin debating the Senate's bill suspending U.S. aid, "we will already have demonstrated that our government opposes terrorism." By 8 September "we shall have prepared the necesary documents to prove to the U.S.

Congress that far from promoting terrorism, our government is dismantling it," he stressed.

Panama

Endara: Only Vice Consul Involved in Gunrunning

PA1908180793 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Aug 93

[From "The RPC Television News" newscast]

[Text] This afternoon during a new conference, President Guillermo Endara stated that only Victoria Uribe, Panamanian vice consul in Barcelona, is implicated in the gunrunning scandal to Yugoslavia.

President Endara held a news conference to fill in the gaps in the report prepared by the official commission that traveled to Barcelona but was given no authority in the case. He made it clear that the former vice consul acted without any authorization from the Panamanian Government and that she overstepped her legal powers.

The president has ordered his secret service to conduct an investigation at the same time a second inquiry was conducted by an official multisector group, which traveled to Spain two weeks ago. This mission gave him other facts about the gunrunning scandal, of which he revealed only two. Endara stressed that this new evidence permits him to affirm that the vice consul is the only Panamanian implicated in this matter, adding that there is not even the slightest hint there might be another Panamanian official or citizen linked with the case.

The president said he assumed full responsibility for the handling of the investigation given the avalanche of criticism over the Foreign Ministry's apparent negligence in clearing up the matter as explained in the report prepared by the official commission.

[Begin Endara recording] I have been on top of this situation throughout. I am responsible for what has happened here. What has occurred has followed my instructions at every time and place. Other than the former Panamanian vice consul to Barcelona, there is no other Panamanian, either working for the government or as a private citizen, involved in this matter. [end recording]

Another conclusion revealed by the president was that European agents have alerted him to the fact that gunrunners are very active in the war in Bosnia and the UN-imposed embargo. They recommended that he alert all of his foreign service personnel to this fact to avert new gunrunning cases.

Victoria Uribe, former vice consul, is implicated in the scandal of gunrunning to Yugoslavia. Uribe is implicated in the trafficking of 32,000 submachine guns, 20 million bullets, and more than 120,000 ammunition clips, which were purchased by European arms traffickers from Czechoslovak and Austrian factories and processed through the Panamanian Consulate in Barcelona.

Foreign Minister Retains Post

PA1908224793 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Aug 93

[From "The RPC Television News" newscast]

[Text] After submitting his resignation to the Executive Branch, Foreign Minister Julio Linares agreed to continue in his post as foreign minister at the request of President Guillermo Endara. Foreign Minister Linares said he will substantiate his charges against the report prepared by the commission, which investigated the case of running weapons to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

[Begin recording] [Linares] I am going to draft a report for the president explaining in black and white the inaccuracies and omissions, which are many, in that report.

[Unidentified reporter] What does this situation do for Panama's image abroad?

[Linares] I am glad you asked that question. Three Czechoslovaks [as received] were arrested and one Austrian is being sought in this gunrunning case. This information was being kept very quiet; no one knew anything about it. We heard about this here in Panama, despite the fact that the only person who appeared to be involved—and it cannot be said this person can be charged with gunrunning because it has not been proven yet—was an eighth category foreign service official. We, Panamanians have created such a stir and such a commotion here, as if this was something which the whole government was involved in. These are the things that smear the image of any country. [end recording]

If this continues to be reported in a manner critical of the government, Panama's image abroad will continue to deteriorate, the foreign minister noted. He said he is not shirking responsibility and that although the Foreign Ministry's role in this case is investigative, not administrative, officials found to be involved in the gunrunning scandal will be dismissed.

Official Criticizes Foreign Minister

PA1908170393 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 19 Aug 93 p 1A

[Report by Tomas Cabal]

[Text] Deputy Comptroller General Jose Chen Barria, who headed the commission that investigated the alleged gunrunning to former Yugoslavia, has harshly criticized Foreign Minister Julio Linares through a facsimile sent to the media.

Responding to the severe criticism voiced by the foreign minister, Chen Barria denied that there had been any attempt to distort the investigations. He said all the evidence and documents obtained in Europe had been included in the report. Chen Barria explained that the report contained all the documentary proof, including verbal testimonies by some officials of the Foreign Ministry.

Julio Linares sent Marina M vo, former ambassador to Israel under Noriega, as h presentative.

The statement by Chen Barria, who is a member of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], comes at a time when tensions in the government alliance are apparently mounting.

Minister Linares, who is a member of the MOLIRENA [National Liberal Republican Movement], hinted that PDC-linked political forces were behind the report. Minister Linares was referring to statements made by Legislator Alfredo Ehlers, who had requested a vote of censure.

From a political standpoint, Minister Linares' situation appears to be getting complicated, after it was discovered that Maria de Los Angeles Casco, Panamanian consul in Madrid, played a role in the case.

The official "urged the Foreign Ministry and the Commerce and Industries Ministry to accelerate proceedings in favor of Roberto Breimer, representative of the Eurounion Gibraltar Ltd.," according to a report by the investigating commission.

This mysterious person has now surfaced as a key piece in the puzzle, because Czechoslovak authorities suspect that an initial attempt to obtain weapons with the help of a Bolivian official was the work of the same organization.

The conclusions of the report have raised questions about the role of the Foreign Ministry and its officials, because it was confirmed that they knew details of the operation three months ago. The report disclosed serious inconsistencies on the part of the Foreign Ministry and state security organizations.

These conclusions appear to have placed Minister Linares and President Endara at a political crossroads at a time when the two principal parties of the government alliance are disputing the presidential nomination.

People well versed in the matter and sources at the Palace of Herons said there could be a "definitive break" between the Arnulfista Party and MOLIRENA over this scandal. The same sources recalled what happened in April 1991 when President Endara accused the PDC of importing weapons, a situation he availed himself of to remove them from the government.

Minister Linares' role in the matter is unclear, as is the role played by French businessman Serge Petrucci. Petrucci, who initially identified himself as a shipowner and who in his news conference denied knowing the king of Morocco, now identifies himself as "a rug salesman."

Petrucci has publicly asked the president of the Republic and foreign minister for a certificate "to clear his reputation." Petrucci's demands have given rise to many negative comments to the point that his legal status in Panama has been questioned.

A report by the Spanish magazine CAMBIO 16 revealed unknown aspects of Petrucci's transactions with Consul General Eliecer Elisha Quintero. These transactions, which included the "gift" of a bullet-proof vehicle, appear to confirm that many administrative irregularities took place.

The report notes that one of Petrucci's ships, which was registered in Panama, is being tracked by Italian and Spanish authorities.

CAMBIO 16 reported that, in light of the gunrunning scandal, all Panamanian-flag ships that dock in the port of Barcelona will be investigated to determine whether, if as suspected, a weapons shipment reached the Balkan peninsula.

Argentina

Commission Probing Falklands War Crimes Extended

PY1908184293 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Aug 93 p 4

[Text] The Defense Ministry has extended the deadline established for the official commission, that is probing alleged human rights violations during the Malvinas War, for two months.

Defense Minister Oscar Camilion announced this yesterday shortly before travelling to the town of Yapeyu, Corrientes Province, to participate in the official ceremonies to mark the 143d anniversary of General Jose de San Martin's death.

The investigative commission's original period began on 17 June and the 60-day extension has been implemented through Defense Ministry Resolution No. 556/93.

The extension of the originally established deadline was decided because of the number of testimonies received and to facilitate the reception of other testimonies.

Estabillo Analyzes Issue

PY1908191393 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 18 Aug 93 p 9

[Article by Daniel Santoro]

[Text] Tierra del Fuego Governor Jose Estabillo has not ruled out the possibility of accepting the eventual incorporation of the Malvinas Islands as a "new province" if that is the "sacrifice" the province must pay for an eventual agreement with Great Britain over the issue. The governor insisted, however, that he would never agree to the frustrated idea proposed by Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella to grant the islands the status of a "free associated state."

Estabillo, under whose jurisdiction the Malvinas Islands fall, told CLARIN that the national government "should not continue" to limit the number of squid fishing licenses in the South Atlantic as a goodwill gesture toward the Kelpers. He said that the government must first contemplate the fishing interests of Tierra del Fuego and the other maritime provinces. Last week Tierra del Fuego reached agreement with the Foreign Ministry over the creation of a Malvinas Consultation Commission, but it now refuses to sign the fiscal pact. President Carlos Menem suspended his visit to Ushuaia, which was scheduled for tomorrow, because of this disagreement.

Here are the main points that Estabillo outlined following Foreign Minister Di Tella's visit to Ushuaia on 9 and 10 August during which some 50 people pelted Di Tella with snowballs and eggs.

—The possibility of making the Malvinas Islands a new province: I cannot accept or reject this alternative at this time. Elected bodies like the provincial legislature must comment first. However, right now I can only say that the priority is to reincorporate the Malvinas Islands to the state. We would be willing to sacrifice something to achieve this.

—The British decision to maintain the right to fish in the Georgias: Every unilateral measure hurts and bothers the provincial government and the foreign minister. We trust that the national government will reach some agreement on this issue.

—The extension of the squid fishing agreement: This issue must be discussed by the consultation commission. We must listen to the opinions of other provinces with fishing interests. The issue could be handled by the Federal Fishing Council. In any case, I believe we should not be more flexible if that means sacrificing our fishing interests.

Study Reveals Reduction of Army Officers

PY2008013493 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Aug 93 p 4

[Text] An investigation by the Union Studies Center for the New Majority has revealed that the number of active duty generals, admirals, and brigadiers has dropped by nearly 50 percent over the past decade.

The study shows that there were 114 active duty generals, admirals, and brigadiers in the Armed Forces when Raul Alfonsin took power in December 1983.

At that time the Army had one lieutenant general, 11 division generals, and 41 brigade generals: a total of 53 generals. The Army now has two active duty lieutenant generals (the Army General Staff chief and the Joint General Staff chief), 4 division generals, and 26 brigade generals: a total of 32, representing a reduction of 40 percent compared with a decade ago.

In December 1983, the Navy had one admiral, eight vice admirals, and 19 rear admirals: a total of 28. Today the Navy has one admiral (the Navy General Staff chief), one vice admiral, and 16 rear admirals: a total of 18, or a 36 percent reduction.

A decade ago the Air Force had one brigadier general, six brigadier majors, and 27 brigadiers: a total of 34 active duty brigadiers. Now there is one brigadier general (Brigadier General Juan Paulik was promoted to the rank of General Staff chief) and 13 brigadiers: a total of 14, some 59-percent less than a decade ago.

The total number of generals, admirals, and brigadiers—excluding those in professional fields like medical doctors, lawyers, and quartermaster corps generals was 115 in December 1983. Today there are 64, or a 45 percent reduction.

The conclusions of the study are that the number of active duty generals, admirals, and brigadiers has dropped from 115 to 64 during the past decade and that,

consequently, the Armed Forces have been significantly reorganized in the past few years.

The study points out that recent promotions in the Navy and Air Force have provoked the retirement of officers and not the promotion of others. At the end of the year the number of admirals and brigadiers will possibly increase and the present figure of 64 could increase by about 10. The report concludes by saying that "the reduction will continue to be significant."

Bolivia

Entry of U.S. Antinarcotics Advisers Approved

PY1908163593 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Excerpt] After a long debate, Congress last night approved the move authorizing the entry of 24 U.S. military advisers into the country to train the antinarcotics police. This is possibly the last action resulting from annex [word indistinct] of the 1990 bilateral agreement.

The Congress approved the measure with votes in favor from the MNR [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement], the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left], and the Civic Solidarity Union, and with the opposition of the Free Bolivia Movement and Condepa [Conscience of the Fatherland]. Here is what Senate President Juan Carlos Duran said about the debate on this very important issue for the country:

[Begin recording] Last night, at around 2130, Congress approved authorization for the entry of the advisers into the country. For nearly 30 days these advisers will offer courses on advanced techniques. They will train Umopar [Mobile Police Unit for Rural Areas] police members to act in danger zones and control rural areas within the framework of the fight on drug trafficking. These courses are normally offered anywhere in the world. The truth is that the debate—which lasted three days; it was a long debate—served as a way for legislators to establish their positions, to see the viewpoints of the different political blocs. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

National Mining Sector 'Crisis' Called 'Serious'

PY1908153793 La Paz Television Nacional Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] If measures to reactivate national mining activity are not adopted soon, Bolivian mines will not be able to survive for long. The low prices of tin and other mineral prices on the international market are creating a practically unsustainable situation for national mining activities.

[Begin Bolivian Mining Chamber President Luis Prado recording] Activities at several mines in Potosi, Oruro, and in the zone of (Quime) are at a standstill. The tin mines, as well as all of the wolfram mines, which are exploited both by cooperatives and mining companies, have been paralyzed because there is no market for these minerals. The situation is becoming increasingly worse. If we do not apply the necessary corrective measures, which I trust will be applied, I believe we will have serious problems within three months' time. [end recording]

Because of this situation the near future of Bolivian mining is very worrisome.

[Begin Prado recording] This worries us because once a mine ceases operations it is very difficult to reopen it. The situation for tin is very complicated and difficult if we do not obtain a credit line allowing us to continue production at a level that will at least permit us to survive, or to maintain operations. [end recording]

Although there is a possibility that the prices of minerals may increase in the future, it is necessary to apply urgent measures in this field, given that the capitalization process the government intends to implement to reactivate mining is a long-term alternative.

The national mining crisis is very serious. The government is worried, and it recognizes that it will be difficult to reactivate this industry.

[Begin Mining Under Secretary Jaime Villalobos recording] I am really worried, even scared, over what is happening with the mining sector. I feel we are currently living through the worst historical times of mining. [end recording]

This crisis is a consequence of plunging prices for Bolivian minerals on the international market, which is an unprecedented situation, according to Under Secretary Villalobos.

[Begin Villalobos recording] Tin prices have dropped to their lowest level. Tin is worth practically nothing if we consider the cost of exploiting, concentrating, smelting, refining, and selling it. [end recording]

This situation is even more serious than the crisis we lived through in 1985, when the price of tin dropped considerably. Mining activities did not, however, collapse that year, as they were diversified into bivalent metallic elements like zinc.

The current situation is different, however, as zinc is also facing its deepest crisis, and we must note the great supply of this mineral on the international market.

In view of this poor outlook the Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada administration has a defined policy for the mining sector.

[Begin Villalobos recording] We intend to maintain the productive base of our traditional mining—that is, to make this traditional mining activity, which is in crisis, continue generating hard currency for the state. The other important priority in this disaster is to plan new mining activity, based mainly on prospecting in our

national territory for—and hopefully finding—new mineral deposits that could be competitively exploited under current conditions. [end recording]

Despite this deep crisis government officials are optimistic about implementing a mining policy that will reactivate this sector.

Brazil

Finance Ministry Agrees To Reschedule State Debts

PY2008010993 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 18 Aug 93 p 19

[Text] The Finance Ministry yesterday agreed to refinance state and municipal government debts during a meeting between Clovis Carvalho, the Finance Ministry economic policy secretary; the State Finance Secretaries Committee; and Deputy Germano Rigotto (PMDB-RS) [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party-Rio Grande do Sul], who is sponsoring the draft bill that establishes the regulations for the rescheduling of state debts. The agreement is an important step in Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso's strategy to adopt more audacious measures to combat inflation which, among other things, includes measures to organize public accounts.

Following this refinancing of state debts, the Treasury will once again receive installments of state debts in arrears and the government will thus improve its cash flow situation. A major concern of the Finance Ministry is to receive the first installments without delay. In view of this the government has agreed to refinance in six installments further delays, as of June. The agreement will also benefit the FGTS [Severance Pay Fund] which will again receive payments from credits granted by the Federal Savings Bank using FGTS resources.

The government has agreed to grant more concessions on the voting next week of the draft bill to refinance $19.5 billion that state governments owe the Federal Government. The finance minister has given up the idea of fixing a percentage on the revenues that state governments should allocate for refinancing their debts. Negotiations on this issue will take place during the voting on a resolution which the Senate will issue for this purpose. State governments believe this should be 7 percent while the Finance Ministry believe it should be 11 percent.

State governments have until 30 June to refinance the bulk of their debt with the Federal Government for up to 20 years, paying a statistically weighted average of the originally established interest rates. The government made another concession by agreeing to refinance in six installments eventual delays in payments occurring between the due date (30 June) and the signing of contracts (up to five months after the publication of the law).

The government also established guarantees in the agreement. The Federal Government has access to state revenues, including the transference of funds, as established in the Constitution. Rigotto said that the agreement does not accept negotiations outside the law and prohibits the Federal Government from granting collateral securities and from voluntarily transferring funds to states that do not pay their taxes.

Under the agreement established yesterday, debts on properties (in securities) are not encompassed in the refinancing of state debts, but will be considered when allocating state revenues.

Clovis Carvalho said: The important thing is that after overcoming initial mistrust, there was complete agreement on the objectives to be achieved.

Minister To Probe Massacre of Ianomami Indians

PY1908175193 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Report by Alexandra Anselmo]

[Text] Justice Minister Mauricio Correa will leave at approximately 1000 this morning for Roraima, where he will look into a mass murder of Ianomami Indians.

The minister will visit the place where the Ianomami Indians were massacred. He will be accompanied by Funai [National Indian Foundation] President Claudio Romero and other advisers. According to reports received by the justice minister from the Funai regional administrator in Boa Vista, 10 children, five women, and two men of the Ianomami tribe were murdered by gold prospectors in the region between (Romoche) and (Cideiac), on the border between Brazil and Venezuela.

The Indians were reportedly murdered with tremendous cruelty and savagery. Some Ianomami children were reportedly beheaded with large knives. Until late last night the minister had not yet received confirmation of the scope of the massacre, but due to the strong indications that the Indians were in fact murdered by gold prospectors, the minister decided, at the request of President Itamar Franco, to go to Roraima to implement all the necessary measures.

Chile

Lower House Approves Aylwin Bill on Human Rights

PY1908170893 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Report by Javier Galaz]

[Text] A bill submitted by President Patricio Aylwin to speed up proceedings on human rights violations, and according to which it is possible to apply the 1978 amnesty, was approved by the Chamber of Deputies

yesterday without one of its essential elements: the guarantee of secrecy for those who might contribute to uncovering the truth about the missing detainees, in order to encourage their cooperation.

For completely different reasons the socialist bloc, the PPD [Party for Democracy], and rightist deputies voted against Article 3 of the so-called Aylwin bill. Radical Party [PR] and Christian Democratic Party [PDC] deputies totalled merely 38 favorable votes, against 57 negative votes and four abstentions.

The reasons for rejection of the privacy clause by the coalition alliance's left wing were the same as those prompting socialist and PPD deputies to reject the idea of approving the bill. This caused a rift within the coalition alliance, and during this preliminary vote the bill was approved in general by a majority made up of the PDC, the PR, and the right.

The socialists and the PPD want to restrict the privacy, not allowing defendants who do not confess to invoke the right to keep their identities secret.

The government's refusal to add this change caused the coalition alliance's left to join the opposition and also vote against Article 3 during the respective review.

In order to oppose the article on privacy, the right claimed that by establishing in the bill a requirement for the judges to draw up a detailed report on events, only keeping the identities of the deponents and defendants secret, the courts of justice are induced to assume the interpretation that amnesty is only applicable after the completion of the appropriate court investigations on human rights violations.

The destiny of Article 3 will now therefore depend on the negotiations that may be conducted in the Senate. This may cause an insurmountable disagreement between the two chambers with regard to the Aylwin bill.

The Aylwin bill's initial constitutional procedure yesterday elicited angry protest reactions by relatives of missing detainees, who occupied the galleries of the Chamber of Deputies.

Colombia

Liberal Party May Withdraw From Gaviria's Cabinet

PA2008015893 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Aug 93

[From the "24 Hours" newscast]

[Text] At the conclusion of the meeting of the National Liberal Directorate [DNL], Liberal presidential hopeful Ernesto Samper Pizano announced today that he might withdraw his ministers from the cabinet of President Cesar Gaviria. Also during the meeting, the DNL issued regulations governing internal consultations.

The DNL today regulated consultations for the forthcoming elections that will be held without candidate Enrique Parejo and with the possibility that Carlos Lemus will finally accept the rules of the game. It was established that consultations will be held on 13 March 1994, simultaneous with parliamentary elections. The candidate will be chosen by a simple majority. Prospective candidates may register starting tomorrow through 31 August by having the support of at least 35 delegates to the last consultation or with the support of 35,000 citizens. A Tribunal of Ethics Control was also established.

[Begin Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala recording] It is empowered to oppose the registration of those who, on morality grounds, could not really be worthy of Liberal support. [end recording]

The Council for Overseeing Electoral Funds and a Neutrality Council were also created. Ernesto Samper referred to the withdrawal of his ministers.

[Begin Samper recording] If that is the condition for unity, I am willing to withdraw them because.... [pauses] It is not up to me to provoke a cabinet crisis. [end recording]

And even though there were agreements on all points, some prospective candidates feel they do not have equal opportunity before the media.

[Begin David Turbay recording] They must not polarize people between Dr. Ernesto Samper and Dr. Andres Pastrana. [end recording]

In view of the latest events inside the Liberal Party, it was decided, in memory of Luis Carlos Galan, that these consultations would be held in a disciplined manner.

* Santofimio on Election of Senate President

93SM0376A Santa Fe de Bogota SEMANA in Spanish 27 Jul 93 pp 42-43

[Interview with Senator Alberto Santofimio; place and date not given]

[Text] Last 20 July, the victory of Jorge Elias Nader, from Cordoba Department, in the contest for the presidency of the Senate, and therefore of the Congress, surprised politicians, journalists, and students of the Congress. Until a few moments before the vote, the election of Alberto Santofimio, who had the support of most of the Samperists in the upper house, among others, was taken for granted. Everything indicates that several senators changed sides at the last moment. SEMANA interviewed Senator Santofimio to find out what happened.

[SEMANA] Many observers saw your election as president of the Congress as the consolidation of a new phase in your political career, and that in a way this would signify a break with a controversial past, and make way

for a new Santofimio. Do you believe that losing the election to Jorge Elias Nader halts this process in your career?

[Santofimio] On the contrary. I am deeply proud of having had the solidarity of senators that represent the best in liberalism—morally, intellectually, and politically. I was in harmony with the new Colombia and with the representatives of renewal and change, and I prefer to have lost at their side than to have won, stained by a certain scum.

[SEMANA] You had the support of most of the senators who favor the presidential aspirations of Ernesto Samper. They are such representative Samperist figures as Fernando Botero, Jose Blackburn, Alvaro Uribe, Alberto Montoya, and Joselito Guerra. As this group seems to be the majority in the Senate, what went wrong?

[Santofimio] It was an indication of the deep crisis that Colombian politics is experiencing. Just as on the world scene, primitive nationalism and religious fanaticism are replacing the true and noble function of politics, in the Colombian situation, we have no politicians. Within Congress, regionalism and personal interests were more important than a true conception of political responsibilities. Some preferred to vote against the policies of the candidate they said they supported to vote in favor of their regional or personal interests, and so place themselves at the service of the ambitions of their candidate's opponents.

[SEMANA] Does the fact that some Samperists who supported your candidacy, in the end voted for your opponent damage in any way the support you offered almost a year ago for the Samper candidacy?

[Santofimio] Not at all. I will continue working for Ernesto Samper's candidacy and political program jointly with those who supported my candidacy, and who constitute the largest, most solid and most coherent Liberal force in the Senate. The few votes that determined the majority against us must be seen as a scattering that included the regional unity of the Caribbean coast, and the few senators who support the candidacies of Lemos, De la Calle, Parejo, and David Turbay. In sum, it was a coalition of elements from the coast and anti-Samperists.

[SEMANA] Taking into account the victory won in the chamber by the coast coalition with the election of Francisco Jose Jattin, is it correct to say that the coastal bloc dominates the Congress?

[Santofimio] More than the coastal bloc, which legitimately pursued its regional interests, other factors converged that involved the Ethics Commission, bureaucratic considerations, and personal interests. If investigative journalists examine the list of voters, the secret connecting wire between these situations will be visible and familiar.

[SEMANA] What is the outlook for the Liberal Party in the coming election?

[Santofimio] It is too soon to tell. The runoff election took shape in the Constituent Congress as a great barrier against the traditional liberal majority in Colombia. In this century, the conservatives have been able to win only with Ospina and Betancur, taking advantage of divisions in the Liberal Party. Now the runoff election raises more complications and opens deeper uncertainties. Of what use are a popular primary and possible arbitration by Dr. Turbay if those who set the conditions do not commit themselves to accept the results? In the event that the congressional election were to be held independently from the primary process, the Liberal Party would have miserable election results that would place it in a losing position against the candidacy of Andres Pastrana. Furthermore, the whim of having the primary on a different date from the elections places the Liberal Party in the position of paying the political cost for an unpopular expenditure of state funds on successive electoral proceedings, when everyone understands that these funds could well have been used to cover part of the hospital crisis, social security, or public education, for example. If the Liberal Party does not come together after the primary to win the first round of elections with the force of its majority, a second round of runoff elections would be full of all kinds of unknowns, fortified furthermore by the example of what has happened in other latitudes, such as the case of Vargas Llosa in Peru, just to cite one of the more recent examples. Without good faith and a calling for unity in accepting the results, the rules of the game are nothing more than a chimera and an instrument to evade the true passion of Liberal power, which is centered in the person of Ernesto Samper and in the political, economic, and social program that he announced on his return to Colombia.

[SEMANA] And finally, will the country see you again some day as a presidential candidate?

[Santofimio] I think that, as long as a person is in politics, the future remains unpredictable. It is difficult to prophesy. This is why Napoleon once said that politics is destiny. While a person is immersed in the world of political contradictions, he will be available to fill the position. And it is natural to the human condition that, after a political career in which only that honor remains to be won, one aspires to achieve it some day, especially when all of the Liberal tendencies for renewal have accompanied me in perfect harmony toward the clear objectives of change and modernization. My experience in public service and my congressional career, my words in the public square as well as in the university and in Congress, are irreversibly committed to those objectives. Otherwise, without considering past mutual sympathies, I could never have counted on the praiseworthy help and support of noted figures who accompanied Luis Carlos Galan on his journeys, such as Jose Blackburn or Julio Bahamon.

* Future Oil Earnings' Impact on Economy Viewed

* Government Study Cited

93SM0362A Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 7 Jul 93 p 1B

[Text] Cusiana will not mean unusually fast growth for the Colombian economy. The oil deposits will improve government finances and conditions in the production regions, but the country's overall output will not grow much faster than projected.

When all is said and done, this means that most Colombians will not feel a substantial improvement in their income levels, nor will more jobs be available as a result of the development of the new wells.

The projections of the experts are different from what might be expected.

According to studies conducted by the National Planning Department, which will be presented today at an international seminar in Bogota, with Cusiana the total output of goods and services, or Gross Domestic Product (GDP), will increase at an annual rate of 4.88 percent over the next seven years.

Without the deposits, growth would be 4.38 percent.

According to the planning department's assessment, the potential foreign exchange will be spent mainly in the oil sector and on public infrastructure, which could dampen industrial and farm sectors.

Moreover, in view of the influx of additional dollars into the economy, the economic authorities will be forced to decrease the value of the dollar vis-a-vis the peso to prevent a flood of money from entering. This would have adverse effects on sales of Colombian products overseas.

These symptoms are commonly known as the "Dutch disease," which is the big risk that Colombia runs.

According to the government's predictions, "It should not be understood that Cusiana will mean a widespread recession accompanied by a rise in the cost of living." Nevertheless, the potential "disease" will detract from the importance of the new deposits as a spur to the economy.

The fact is that sectors such as farming and the production of manufactured and capital goods would post faster growth without the income from oil.

Government Calm

Cusiana will underwrite future government spending. In general, the proceeds from the deposits will finance general expenditures and meet the needs entailed in the reform of social security without the necessity of further tax reforms or more borrowing.

The public sector deficit will presumably stand at around 2 percent of the GDP until 1996, but the deficit will disappear in 1998, and there may even be a surplus; that is to say, the government's revenues will exceed its outlays.

According to the calculations of the Macroeconomic Unit of National Planning, over the next 10 years the central government will take in close to $2.2 billion from the income tax, $500 million from remittance taxes, and $75 million from tariffs on imports of capital goods for the development of the oilfields.

Moreover, the country's international balance of payments will undergo major changes. According to the assessment, the country's total exports will grow at an average annual rate of 6 percent between 1994 and 2000, a result of oil sales doubling in 1997.

The study cautions that an irresponsible management of the revenues from Cusiana could lead to serious imbalances in government spending, and higher oil income would then provide only temporary relief.

* Hommes: Additional Tax Reforms

93SM0362B Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 9 Jul 93 p 8A

[Text] The oil boom will not be enough to cover all government spending. On the contrary, the next administration will have no choice but to introduce a new tax reform if it wants to finance the sizable revenues that will be transferred to Colombia's municipalities and departments.

The announcement was made by Finance Minister Rodolfo Hommes, who noted that accelerating a devaluation would not be a good idea since this would invite a premature accumulation of reserves.

In closing the seminar on Cusiana and the Colombian economy in the 1990's, the minister referred to the need to implement a tax reform that takes into account the fact that the 25 percent surtax on incomes and the 2 percent surcharge on the sales tax (VAT) would no longer be collected as of 1998.

He asserted that the next administration would be faced with a difficult fiscal problem in its last year in office. Therefore, another tax reform will be inevitable.

The ministry estimates that the expiration of the surtax and the 2 percent surcharge on the VAT could be equivalent to 1.5 percent of the GDP [gross domestic product].

Under the law of revenues and jurisdictions, the central government will have to gradually transfer part of its revenues to the municipalities and departments, a sum that could reach 10 trillion pesos between now and the year 2000.

Hommes recalled that the full potential of the Cusiana boom would not be felt until 1997; in contrast, the macroeconomic and financial pressures would arise right away.

He, therefore, cautioned that the hardest part would be handling the pressure groups and their desire to obtain a portion of the surpluses that the central government will post.

The requests of banana and coffee growers for some of the proceeds from the boom are thus practically being denied. The former were hoping to finance the purchase of marketing companies overseas, while the latter wanted money to partly overcome their current crisis.

Tight Fiscal Control

In giving a rundown of the problems that the country will have to tackle, the finance minister said that the coming boom would have to be properly managed so that it contributes to, not detracts from, the country's welfare.

"The keys to success in managing the boom are fiscal discipline and the proper use of the revenues in high-profitability projects and expenditures," the minister said, indicating that the money that the regional bodies are going to invest ought to be directed at ending bottlenecks, such as by expanding infrastructure and enhancing human resources.

The government feels that regrettably no legal or institutional framework yet exists to make sure that the revenues transferred to the regional bodies are going to be allocated to these two priority objectives.

To avoid waste, the Congress must be shown that the National Royalties Fund cannot be administered in isolation by the Ministry of Mines and the governors of the producing departments. It must be managed by Conpes [National Council for Economic and Social Policy].

Moreover, several articles of the Constitution must be elaborated on to create mechanisms to monitor the projects that the regions are executing and to prevent loans to local governments from mushrooming.

According to Hommes, if the boom is bigger than expected, the Constitution and the laws will have to be amended to limit transfers to the regions.

The finance minister explained that the oil boom would mean an annual surplus equivalent to 1.5 percent of the GDP for the government; this should be earmarked to pay off the public debt, since this is the best way to save money.

At the close of his address the minister said that the temptation of government to borrow and begin spending the proceeds from the boom right away is one of the biggest threats to the economy's future stability.

"If fiscal discipline is relaxed in the period from 1994 to 1997," Hommes said, "there is very little chance that Colombia will make good use of the revenues from Cusiana. The authorities during the next presidential term will have to prove their political maturity by imposing austerity on the threshold of the boom."

* Industries Rate Second Quarter Performance

93SM0363A Santa Fe de Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 6 Jul 93 pp 1, 5B

[Text] Expectations that 1993 would be a good year for industry began to fade after the first half of the year ended. And to make matters worse, there is a great deal of skepticism about what will happen during the remaining six months of the year.

The position of the National Association of Industrialists (ANDI) suffices to confirm this situation: "The performance of the manufacturing industry for the first half can be rated as 2.8 on a scale of 5, although the signs point to a downward trend with an even lower score for the year."

Small and medium-sized industry rates the first quarter well, but the second quarter ended on a "quite negative" note. Exporters give the first half a score of only 3.0. And the Colombian Association of the Leather Industry, Asocueros, terms it "difficult."

Nevertheless, the economy in general is getting through the year all right. The first half is described as "good," but with certain reservations.

Development Minister Luis Alberto Moreno is also among those who feel this way. He stated that the first half of the year was good in general terms, but he admitted that certain adjustments must be made, especially with regard to foreign trade. "If they are not made, there will be problems in the future."

"In general terms, the economy is doing well. The Consumer Price Index shows that inflation is under control. The avalanche of imports is disturbing, however. For this reason, we need to fine-tune the mechanisms for controlling foreign trade. These mechanisms should not be limited to the problems of dumping and underinvoicing, but should also apply to products that are seriously undermining the competitiveness of national industry," he says.

He adds that "coordination is critical at this time, and the government is aware of that. But at any rate, if corrective measures are not taken right away, there will indeed be problems in the future."

Carlos Arturo Angel, president of the ANDI, states: "Despite the favorable expectations we had at the end of last year, there has been a clear deceleration of industrial activity, especially since April."

Angel says that businessmen are increasingly likely to blame the decline in demand as the primary obstacle to the development of their companies.

"In fact, domestic demand for domestically produced goods seems to be stagnating because competition from imports has intensified and perhaps because we no longer have the extraordinary liquidity we enjoyed last year," he explains.

"The stagnation of the farm sector has also had an impact by driving down the demand for industrial goods. There is no doubt that the coffee crisis will also leave its mark as its recessive effects reach their full extent this year."

"Moreover," he adds, "some industrial subsectors have been seriously affected by problems related to the management of the economic liberalization, such as dumping and the lack of policy coordination with members of the Andean Group, which promotes unfair competition."

He notes that "the performance of the economy gets a grade of 3.5. The most important positive development this year is getting inflation under control. The rate of inflation is moving closer to the target set by the government. The control of monetary variables has also been important, as it has meant that the means of payment have had a lesser impact on the rise in prices and that interest rates have settled at levels more suitable for productive activity. In addition, international reserves have stabilized."

He indicates that "the most significant negative factor is that productive activity is characterized by stagnation in the farm sector and deceleration in the industrial sector. Despite the lack of definitive official statistics on the performance of foreign trade so far this year, it is clear that the growth rate of exports is far below that of imports."

He draws attention to the difficult situation of public finances, particularly for 1994, given that a sharp jump in the budget deficit could lead to a dangerous imbalance among the most important economic variables. He says it is necessary "to begin analyzing the effect of the Cusiana findings on the economy in order to prevent maladjustments."

Colombian Association of Small Industries

The president of the Colombian Association of Small Industries (ACOPI), German Bula Escobar, states: "It can be said that the first quarter was good and that businessmen's expectations for the short- to medium-term were quite high. Yet during the second quarter, the weight of dumping, unfair competition, and the invasion of imported goods, added to what we had foreseen, the growing influx of finished goods that we knew would come, little by little and not in one fell swoop—the two factors added together have had a significant negative impact, above all in the clothing, shoes, and auto parts sectors."

"Those sectors," he points out, "have seen a slump in the demand for their products, since now they must share it not only with legally imported goods, but also with everything involved in unfair competition."

He says that small and medium-sized industry as a whole "finished the second half with a quite negative impact from the second quarter, which will certainly show up in our survey of the same period."

Regarding the performance of the entire economy, he notes that "we must say that, like small and medium-sized industry, it got off to a good start, but right now the rigors of unfair competition, and even of legal competition, are beginning to be felt as well in sectors such as textiles."

National Association of Exporters

The technical vice president of the National Association of Exporters (Analdex), Javier Diaz Molina, states: "If I had to give a grade to Colombian exporters, I would definitely give them a 4.5, because under adverse circumstances they have managed to keep foreign sales steady.

"If I had to grade the policy governing the sector, I would give it a 3.0. The exchange policy prevents the grade from being any higher.

"As for the performance of the economy in general, I would give it a 3.0. I think a rather modest growth target has been set for the economy; a higher level could be reached if the export sector is not sacrificed."

Asocueros

The president of the Colombian Association of the Leather Industry, Maria Angela Tavera, points out: "The situation in the sector has been difficult this year, as we have had to contend with not only a market in recession in the United States and the EC, where the primary buyers of our products are located, but also a stagnant domestic market and competition from substitute products, especially in the gift market.

"Nonetheless, the sector has retained its dynamism with regard to industrial reconversion, and in the face of rising raw material imports, which is a very advantageous situation but one that involves a drastic change in our business."

With respect to the performance of the economy as a whole, she says: "The liberalization is favorably regarded by the sector, but the revaluation of the exchange rate, which does not appear to be improving, is of concern because of its impact on lesser exports."

Ecuador

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Begins Official Visit

PA1908225193 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Report by Jorge Ivan Melo]

[Text] Venezuelan Foreign Minister Fernando Ochoa Antich arrived at the Mariscal Sucre Airport a few minutes ago. He is on a three-day visit to this country, during which he will seek to strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries. Ochoa Antich noted that despite today's car bomb explosion in Caracas, terrorism will not stop the December presidential elections.

[Begin recording] [Ochoa] I am on an official visit to Ecuador at the invitation of the your government. I take advantage of this first meeting with the media to convey to the Ecuadoran people a cordial greeting from the Venezuelan Government and people. The ties of friendship and affection that have traditionally joined our peoples create an excellent opportunity at this time [words indistinct] process of Latin American integration, so that the affection and friendship of Ecuador can be a firm bases for the union of Latin America.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indistinct] an attack in Caracas. What is happening in Venezuela?

[Ochoa] Venezuela is [words indistinct] very difficult. Unfortunately, we suffered our first car bomb attack. This is really a pattern of destabilization trying undermine democratic stability in Venezuela. I am certain the Venezuelan people will rally around our leader President Ramon Velasquez, and we will overcome the particular situation we are experiencing and hold elections in December. [end recording]

This was Venezuelan Foreign Minister Ochoa Antich. He will return to his country on Saturday, 21 August, at 0900. Tomorrow at 1215 he will meet with President Sixto Duran-Ballen.

Commander Reports Border Situation 'Normal'

PA1908231893 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Aug 93

[From the "Voz Andes Newscast"]

[Text] General Telmo Sandoval, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade in Oro Province, has organized a protocol ceremony to raise the national flag in La Isla in Arenilla canton, after an incursion by Peruvian soldiers. Last week there were serious border incidents with Peruvian soldiers. Gen. Sandoval commented on the need to end the reports and comments generated by the incursion of a Peruvian military patrol in La Isla. He said that the situation is now normal and that existing problems have been overcome. La Isla is in the parish of Chacras, Arenilla canton, 110 km from Machala and only 10 km from Peruvian territory.

Congress Condemns 12 Aug Peruvian Incursion

PA2008001993 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Aug 93

[From the "Voz Andes Newscast"]

[Text] The Ecuadoran Congress condemned and rejected the Peruvian military incursion staged one week ago in Ecuador and has called on Ecuadorans to join forces in defense of national unity. A legislative spokesperson said the legislators agreed to condemn and strongly reject the heinous aggression and appealed to Ecuadorans to join forces in defense of national unity. On Thursday, 12 August, 20 Peruvian soldiers entered the Ecuadoran side of La Isla, 700 km from Quito along the border between the two countries, lowered a flag and carried it away. The legislators concluded that Peruvian troops invaded Ecuadoran territory, were disrespectful of our flag, and offended residents of the area.

Paraguay

President, German Lawmaker Discuss Extradition

PY1908233293 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 18 Aug 93 p 8

[Text] President Juan Carlos Wasmosy granted a private audience to Otto Hauser, a member of the German Parliament, on the morning of 17 August. After the audience, Hauser, who was accompanied by German Ambassador to Paraguay Heinz Schneppen, stated that he came to Paraguay on behalf of German President Richard Von Weizaecher. He further reported that he asked the Paraguayan president to expedite things so "German criminals wanted for economic crimes, fraud, and embezzlement" in Germany and who live in Paraguay can be extradited.

Hauser added: "We discussed with Wasmosy the restructuring of the judiciary and the courts. We do hope that he garners the support of all sectors to accomplish the work he has to do and that the minor problems we had in the past with Paraguay can be ironed out, especially those concerning the extradition of criminals who came to live in this country. We asked the president to extradite them as soon as possible."

He said the German Government had in the past filed requests for the extradition of German criminals but they came to nothing. "We did not get into details this time, but we did ask him to deal with these issues during his tenure in a different way from what was previously done. I am aware that the judiciary is independent from the executive and legislative branches. Notwithstanding this, the president assured me that he will try to have some clout with Congress so as to have the best and most honest men as judges," he said through his interpreter.

Upon being asked whether the previous administration failed to meet their expectations in dealing with the extradition issue, Hauser answered: "Not so much as we

would have liked, but it was not such a heavy burden considering the good relations existing between Paraguay and Germany."

With the aid of his interpreter, Hauser then commented: "We have remarked that some Germans who have committed economic crimes at home have sought refuge in Paraguay. As a result of my meeting with the president, both delegation members and I share the feeling that this is going to change in the future because it will not be so easy for a German criminal to hide in Paraguay. I would like to stress once again that those are economic crimes."

He declined to answer a query about the names of the German criminals, saying: "We cannot disclose their names because they are confidential. This is a proceeding; it pertains to legal matters."

Ambassador Schneppen voiced his hope that these problems can be solved in the future so as not to harm bilateral relations.

Wasmosy Addresses High-Ranking Military Officers

PY1908212893 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 19 Aug 93 p 3

[Text] In his first day at the Armed Forces general headquarters building, engineer Wasmosy held an early morning meeting with top-ranking military chiefs, to whom he addressed a message. In his message, Wasmosy said his "efforts will be centered on optimizing the Armed Forces' training, logistics, and war machinery, in addition to streamlining their effective forces and operational costs. Battles are won not only by having superior technical capacity or a superior number of troops, but by qualified training, high moral standards, and a clear sense of responsibility."

"Upon assuming the leadership of the national government after having been elected in free and sovereign elections, I am also assuming the prestigious constitutional duty of Armed Forces commander. I am assuming the Armed Forces command with great pride. I am also fully aware that in so doing I am irrevocably exercising the powers and attributions bestowed upon me by the Constitution to safeguard the superior interests of the fatherland."

"Messrs. officers, generals, admirals, high-ranking officers, orderlies, NCO's, and recruits of my fatherland, you carry with pride the great tradition of struggling for the defense of peace and freedom with an extraordinary respect for the state of rights and with a deep sense of a popular and nationalist democracy."

Wasmosy added: "We are certain that this new stage in the life of our country, which we have undertaken with great hope and aware of the great challenges ahead, will demand from us great sacrifices, resolve, and determination in the struggle to strengthen our country. We are living in new times that demand a deep and vast modernization to safeguard the full defense of our nation's sovereignty amidst an unstable and competitive world, a modernization that will result in greater well-being for our people. The same people, who jointly with the Armed Forces, have given ample proof of their loyalty, honor, and love for the fatherland, and for their support for the same ideals because the Armed Forces and the Paraguayan people are one and indissoluble, a single expression of our being as a nation."

He said: "Upon assuming the presidency of the nation and very proud of being your commander in chief, I would like to make before you my determined commitment of consolidating the glorious Armed Forces' institutionalization, professionalism, and modernization, convinced that this sacred national institution will be able to fulfill its mission and deserve the blessing of God and the confidence of all Paraguayan citizens."

Argentine Tariff Increase Seen as Obstacle for Mercosur

PY2008004193 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 18 Aug 93 p 11

[Text] Industry and Commerce Minister Ubaldo Scavone stated yesterday at Government Palace that the new Argentine protectionist measure (increase in tariffs from 3 to 10 percent) against national steel represents a new obstacle for the Mercosur [Common Market of the South] Treaty. The new tariff barrier will leave national steel production with no chance whatsoever at the neighboring country's market.

"In principle, and in general, it is a measure that is against the spirit of Mercosur and especially against Paraguayan steel production, taking into account that (Argentina) cannot increase its tariffs beyond what has been agreed upon in the Asuncion Treaty," Minister Scavone said.

The new Argentine measure that will thwart local exports provides for an increase in tariffs for national steel from 3 to 10 percent, which will be added to the statistics rate, which is also 10 percent, and to other internal taxes.

Minister Scavone, who was reconfirmed in his ministerial post, said: "Apparently, Acepar [Paraguayan Steel, Inc.] has been shipping its production in accordance with the tariffs established by ALADI (Latin American Integration Association), and the problem lies precisely there. If this problem cannot be solved through ALADI, we will have to begin negotiations immediately because it affects our exports considerably."

When asked whether local officials are worried about the fact that Argentina is systematically imposing protectionist measures of this type, he said: "We are indeed worried, given the fact that it is an obstacle to Mercosur's development. We are constantly trying to prevent this from happening because it is not possible that one thing

is said in the spirit and form of negotiations while in practice an obstacle is always present."

Scavone added that Paraguayan steel exports to Argentina are not significant, although it is a good beginning the country needs to consolidate within the framework of integration; that is, what is preached in speeches must be demonstrated through facts.

When told that the most interesting part of the issue is that in every meeting Argentine President Carlos Menem talks about integration and friendship, but in practice it is quite another thing, Scavone said: "I have no doubts about President Menem's intentions. What worries me is that on reaching the operational level the intentions are reversed."

When asked whether the government will change its policy on Mercosur, he said that so far there are no instructions for any change, although if that occurs, the Executive Branch will have the exclusive responsibility for announcing it.

Peru

Government Extends State of Emergency

PA1908194493 Paris AFP in Spanish 1702 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Lima, 19 Aug (AFP)—As of today, the Peruvian Government has extended the state of emergency for 60 days in several provinces in five central and southeastern departments in an effort "to facilitate antisubversive operations."

The extraordinary measure, contained in a decree published in the gazette EL PERUANO, includes provinces in central Pasco and Junin Departments and southeastern Huancavelica, Ayacucho, and Puno Departments.

The state of emergency maintains the suspension of constitutional guarantees and reaffirms that the Armed Forces will remain in charge of public order. More than 60 percent of Peru's national territory has been in a state of emergency ever since the "armed struggle" by Shining Path broke out in 1980, with the tragic result of more than 26,000 deaths and considerable damages, according to estimates by the authorities.

Meanwhile, it has been announced that over the past 12 years 1,300 policemen have been killed during terrorist attacks or during clashes with the subversive groups Shining Path and Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA), according to police statistics.

The report points out that the National Police suffered a larger number of casualties than the Army, Navy, or Air Force during that 12-year period, and it notes that according to statistics the number of police casualties has steadily decreased during the 1991-92 period. This is because of the "disjointing of terrorist organizations, whose attack capabilities have declined considerably," according to the report.

Another report pointed out that Jose Nazario Vargas, the former mayor of Canday District, Cajamarca, which is 800 km northeast of Lima, months ago gave some 1,300 soles (approximately $650) to members of Shining Path to finance criminal attacks in the area, according to Colonel Eduardo Mendoza, the region's chief of police. The officer said the former mayor and 13 other criminals who were captured last week were responsible for the murders of defenseless peasants and civilian authorities and for a number of attacks.

Opposition: Fujimori Bidding To Resolve 'Crisis'

PA1908214193 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1745 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Lima, 19 Aug (EFE)—President Alberto Fujimori is facing an "unbearable" government crisis prompted by the alleged mass resignation of his entire cabinet, according to insistent rumors carried by the Lima press today.

The opposition newspaper GESTION stated that Fujimori has summoned an "urgent" meeting of the Council of Ministers to resolve the crisis, adding that a government source said "it was necessary" to reshuffle the cabinet "as soon as possible."

The newspaper added that the official source stated the crisis will lead to the dismissal "for sure" of Oscar de la Puente, foreign minister and president of the Council of Ministers, "because of the unbearable situation that has arisen between him and the other ministers." The report took it for granted, however, that Economy and Finance Minister Jorge Camet will remain in his post.

GESTION stated last Wednesday that the alleged crisis is caused by differences between De la Puente and Camet, and between Camet and Health Minister Victor Paredes. According to the newspaper, the alleged difference between De la Puente and Camet arose because the latter feels the foreign minister had "invaded his domain" by pressuring for recognition of a Peruvian financial debt with three Chilean banks, a matter that in De la Puente's opinion is harming relations with Chile.

In the second case, the report stated Paredes is at odds with Camet over how to distribute a $38 million health loan granted by the Inter-American Development Bank.

* Mayors' Conference Rejects CCD Constitution Plan

93SM0383A Lima SI in Spanish 19 Jul 93 pp 10-13

[Article by unidentified SI correspondent]

[Text] The moment of the mayors seems to have arrived. The meeting of the Association of Municipalities of Peru (AMPE)—inaugurated on the night of Friday, 16 July, in

Lima's Civic Center and that lasted until Sunday the 18th—seems to foretell it. The mood of the conference and the tone of some of the speeches announced from the beginning its character of opposition to the policies of the Palace.

As this magazine went to press, the election—Saturday night it was practically a fact—of the Popular Action mayor of Chiclayo, Arturo Castillo Chirinos, as the new president of the AMPE and successor of Kurt Woll, Popular Christian Party mayor of Callao, criticized in the meeting for being pro-Fujimori, merely confirmed what the previous day had presaged. The outcome was even clearer—and the work of the bloc more evident—with the election of the APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] mayor of Trujillo, Jose Murgia, to the vice presidency. The choice for member of the current board of directors will be between the leftists Alcides Lozano and Teodoro Cardenas.

The conference from the start was given the name Maria Elena Mayano. Although the martyr of Villa El Salvador is acknowledged by all sectors of the country, the choice of her name was an early indication of the conference's orientation. She was a popular leader of the opposition to the current government, who was murdered by Shining Path while fighting for pacification and respect for human rights.

The reading of the letter that Michel Azcueta, ex-mayor of Villa El Salvador sent to the conference also received unanimous applause. It was agreed to support his nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize. The reaction to the letter also reflected the spirit of defense of the rights of municipalities. Azcueta argues in his letter that the municipalities are a pillar of democracy, development and also of the country's pacification.

In his opening speech, Kurt Woll tried to capture this feeling and realign it with the government. However, most of the mayors present at the conference had already made up their minds about his leadership of the AMPE. His closeness—during almost two years—to the positions of the Palace could not be erased with a speech, nor by some criticisms during recent weeks.

Woll said that the incomes of the municipalities are ridiculous; he reported that they do not exceed 0.5 percent of the national budget and that the administrative and economic autonomy of the communities is in danger. He was applauded for several of his statements, but the opinions of most of those present were already formed.

The board of directors was then elected. At this point matters began to become very clear. Elected as president of the meeting was Melita Ruiz de Padilla, provincial mayor of Ucayali, from the ranks of AP. Lucio Juarez Ochoa, an independent close to the Left, from the district of Pueblo Nuevo (Chincha), was elected vice president. Also on the board, as secretary, was Leon Soto Paulino, from Barranca, an open militant of United Left (IU).

This election made clear from the start that the opposition bloc was working, and working well. The APRA, AP, and the Left in all its forms, had been coordinating their roles in the conference for days. Their calculation—and events proved them right—was that they could become the majority and convert the conference into a national reference point around which to organize the opposition to Fujimori and his reelection campaign. Taking into account the representation that each faction could count on, they decided to award the leadership to a Popular Action candidate.

In the conference—in which 180 mayors with voting rights participated—the correlation of forces was approximately as follows: Popular Action had 32 representatives, APRA had 23, IU 18, the PPC [Popular Christian Party] 9, the MDI [expansion not available] 7, and Frenatraca [National Front of Workers and Peasants] 6. Change 90 and New Majority together had only 13 representatives. Forty mayors described themselves as independents. A good many of these are influenced by the Left and an equal number by the APRA. Smaller groups were also represented, such as the FIM [Independent Front for Moralization] and Frepap [expansion not available], each with one mayor. Representing the so-called Works Movement was Ivan Dibos, lieutenant mayor of the municipality of Lima, who also represented Ricardo Belmont. Carlos Caamano, from the same movement, was elected as representative for all of Lima's districts.

An important absentee was Daniel Estrada, provincial mayor of Cusco, who is abroad.

Ricardo Belmont excused his absence, through his representative, for reasons of health; nevertheless, on Saturday, 17 July, he attended indirectly when he invited all the mayors to a lunch at Lima's Municipal Palace. It seems that the break between Belmont and Fujimori is serious. On 27 June, the mayor of Lima stated his position in defense of municipal autonomy in a declaration to the Democratic Constituent Congress (CCD) and the people of Lima.

The Redhead [Belmont] is probably not very pleased that someone from Popular Action is leading the opposition in the AMPE; he surely would have liked to have had that position.

If all the votes held by AP, APRA, IU, Frenatraca and the independents are added up, it is clear that the bloc easily included 70 percent of the delegates.

The conference not only accomplished what it met to do: elect a new board of directors. It also broadened its agenda to include municipal autonomy, income and decentralization.

Agreements had been more or less reached from the beginning. The mayors agreed to propose to the CCD that the new constitution guarantee the administrative and economic autonomy of local governments; that the

municipality be considered not only a provider of second category services, but also an effective local government.

On income, the mayors agreed that at least 25 percent of the national budget be allocated to the municipalities, as evidence of a real desire to democratize power. This was joint motion presented by the entire opposition bloc.

The mayors do not want to continue to be subject to the "carrot-and-stick" policy of the central government: "If you behave well, we will give you your tip; if you behave badly, we will give you nothing." Therefore, they demand that the constitution annul the right of the executive branch to continue to meddle with municipal incomes, financing, resources, and exonerations.

There was unanimity on the need for real decentralization. Some expressed their preference for a departmental solution, but the majority opted for regionalism.

The newly elected president of the AMPE told SI that he intends to take a leading role in the defense of regionalism. He will try to reach an agreement with the central government; but "we are not willing for the central government to keep making promises to us," he said. In his opinion, he went on, "the constitution should provide guarantees to the municipalities." Arturo Castillo Chirinos was designated candidate by his party, Popular Action, by unanimous decision, and on a consensus slate.

On the first day, there were complaints by some district mayors of Lima who, like Oscar Venegas of San Juan de Lurigancho, wanted to take part as full delegates. Venegas claimed that his district is the largest in Peru, and that it has more inhabitants than any city in the provinces. The mayor was partly right, but the statute is very clear: only provincial mayors may participate as full delegates. The district mayors of Lima have, among all of them, the right to name a full delegate. The government will probably try to challenge the legality of the conference, using some of these arguments and alleging that the conference had a political bias.

The results of this Extraordinary Congress of the AMPE undoubtedly strengthen the movement to vote No. It is clear that the mayors will become the most important national organizational bulwark in the campaign to challenge the constitutional plan that is being prepared in the CCD.

This probably does not mean that they will participate organically in a committee for the No vote; nevertheless, they will certainly become committed supporters of that tendency.

Attorney General: Journalists Committed Crime at Cieneguilla

93SM0383B Lima SI in Spanish 19 Jul 93 pp 18-24

[Unattributed article]

[Excerpt] Last week, in a confidential meeting with the Human Rights Commission of Congress, Doctor Blanca Nelida Colan, the attorney general, told its members that the magazine SI had committed a crime against the administration of justice for the way in which it had gone about reporting the existence of the graves at Cieneguilla.

The unusual fact is that these statements, because they come from such a high authority, mean that, in a case where the guilty may never be discovered, the journalists who reported the crime may be the only ones charged.

Before Doctor Colan, only Congresswoman Martha Chavez had taken such a strange position, seeming to be more concerned with catching journalists in error than in contributing to the investigation of a deed that involves a mass murder, the victims subjected to merciless ferocity.

Advancing an Opinion

That Martha Chavez would sustain the theory of the journalists' responsibility is understandable. Everyone is aware of her vehemence, extremely picturesque on occasion. One could even argue that she usually behaves like a great friend of those who oppose the regime, since she contributes to its discredit. Several congressmen expressed their disagreement with Doctor Chavez on the subject, in an internal meeting of the congressional majority. Doctor Cesar Fernandez, ex-president of the Supreme Court, is supposed to have said on that occasion that the congresswoman was mistaken, as one cannot offend against the administration of justice who contributes to justice being administered.

So far, this amounted to an isolated and unfair attitude. But when the attorney general, Doctor Colan, enters the ring to maintain the same position, things change. In this case, it is reasonable to ask oneself if we are faced with a concerted effort, an exercise of power, that has decided to punish the reporting of the existence of clandestine graves in the capital itself.

The idea may be that those who took part in the first discovery must be punished so that anyone on the trail of other graves will heed the lesson. That Doctor Colan should advance an opinion on this subject in the Congress is a serious matter, when the prosecutor in charge of the case, Doctor Victor Cubas, has not yet finished his investigation. In fact, Cubas has not even finished taking the testimony of the person who made the report, the director of SI, Ricardo Uceda.

In the chronology of this case, it is worthwhile remembering this date: Tuesday the 13th. On that date, the Counterterrorism Directorate (Dincote) presented a Shining Path press group that had a sketch of the graves' location, which was going to be published by EL DIARIO, its clandestine organ (see special note [not published]. Whatever the outcome of the investigation, still incomplete, it can be stated that the case does not reflect unfavorably on the members of the press who discovered

the graves. As the director of SI said, the sketch published by this magazine did not originate, not even remotely, with any Shining Path source, or any source close to it.

In other words, Dincote's disclosure does not address the central issue of this entire affair: whose are the remains that were discovered? This should be the principal concern of the attorney general. But her obsession seems to be another.

Two days after the press conference in which Dincote made public its information, Doctor Colan proceeded to read entire paragraphs of edition number 332 of SI in a secret session of the Democratic Constituent Congress, to assert that there was sufficient reason to place the journalists on trial.

The Real Mistakes

Legally, the argument makes no sense (see box)[not published], and is inadmissible coming from the attorney general, who has been making mistakes and committing irregularities all along, in the investigation of the affair of the graves.

It should not be ignored that the judicial authorities of Peru owe their well earned lack of prestige to being influenced by the weight of political power brought to bear upon them. For the sake of the important investigation under way, it should be remembered that the attorney general has a special role in the administration of justice: her mission is to guide it and to assume the people's defense. However, now she seems to be busy changing the center of the investigation of Cieneguilla: the crime and the criminals do not seem to interest her as much as the journalists who helped to shed light on the crime.

In sum, a certain logic is now evident that will be put to the test in coming weeks: to focus more on the origin of the investigation; that is to say, on how the magazine SI obtained the initial information, than on the subject of the report. It seems incredible, because what is evident are the remains, and the focus of the investigation should be the really guilty. [passage omitted]

* Article Claims MRTA 'Disappearance' 'Imminent'

93WR0302Z Lima SI in Spanish 5 Jul 93 pp 30-33

[Article by unidentified SI correspondent]

[Text] The recent capture of Americo Gilvonio Lopez (aged 43) and Luis Alberto Seminario Ramirez (36), among other MRTA [Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement] leaders, is more than just another severe blow dealt at that organization: It constitutes an indication that the entire MRTA clandestine apparat has been detected by the National Counterterrorism Directorate (DINCOTE), and that the capture of the top-ranking chief, Nestor Cerpa Cartolini, is a matter of convenient timing.

There is every indication that the nets have been cast, and are waiting for the fish to continue being caught, before they are drawn in at both ends. Unlike what is happening to Shining Path [SL], in the case of the MRTA it may be inferred that the organization is about to lose its entire leadership structure. After that, its disappearance is, in fact, imminent.

Following the captures of Victor Polay, founder of the movement; Peter Cardenas, its most bloodthirsty military cadre; and Lucero Cumpa, chief of the decisive Northeastern Front, the MRTA set three goals for itself. They consisted of the reconstruction of the fronts disbanded by the repression, the politico-military toughening of its militants, and the reestablishment of its ties to the masses.

The impact from the blow sustained by the MRTA is gauged not only by the status of the cadres captured, but also by documents found in their hiding places, revealing a comatose state of indiscipline, demoralization, and irresponsibility. A careful reading of those internal texts affords an inevitable diagnosis: The MRTA has been punished from the outside and corroded from within. We have reprinted paragraphs from internal correspondence attesting to this.

The successful operation on the part of DIVICOTE-2 [Anti-Terrorism Division-2] is a link in an on-going process. Christened "Falcon," it was actually a tribute to Captain Javier Valdivia Manrique, "Duque," who participated in the capture of Peter Cardenas and was recently assassinated by the Shining Path.

In fact, the pursuits preceding the recent captures began with the downfall of Yehude Simon and other "Free Fatherland" leaders. The written and graphic records of that organization, closely linked to the MRTA, have served as a basis for consecutive police operations.

The result is that, now, all that remains to be achieved is the capture of three members of the national leadership, and bringing the chiefs of the regional committees to the point of being caught. Half of the members of the Political Commission or National Executive Committee are behind bars: Victor Polay, Peter Cardenas, Lucero Compa, and now Americo Gilvonio. Hugo Avellaneda, or "Comrade Eloy," is exiled in Europe. Still at large are Cerpa Cartolini and Miguel Rincon Rincon (the double surname belongs to his mother, because his father, a priest, refused to sign the record). Sergio Murillo Rojas, commander of the MRTA's so-called special forces in Lima, is reportedly the other member of the top leadership.

The movement's Central Committee consists of the aforementioned individuals plus the regional committees' military commanders. The MRTA is in trouble

there as well. Andres Mendoza Aguilar (aged 28), "Comrade Grillo," who replaced Lucero Compa as commander of the Northeastern region, is now a repentant one; however, some consider him to have disappeared. He was replaced by Juan Leon Montero, alias "Perseo," a young leader who had a romance with the Italian woman, Gabriella Guarino, linked with the MRTA's international apparatus.

The Southern Regional Group was headed by "Comrade Roque," who was captured in Cusco, resulting in the total deactivation of the movement's Southern Front.

"Comrade Laynez" is in command of the Central Front, and "Comrade Celso," of the Northern Front.

Gilvonio, on the Central Committee, was responsible for the recruitment among the masses, and served as the link with union and labor type organizations. The MRTA's structural shortcomings have been more clearly evident in this activity than in other types: excessive liberalism and exhibitionism which, from the outset, made infiltration possible from top to bottom on all its organizational and territorial levels.

In the seized correspondence, SI was able to trace evidence of the MRTA's trade union operational tactics. For example, a mass demonstration had been planned for 26 June at the Acoustic Shell on Mars Field. Commitments were made for this event, with specific identification, that is, with the names of organizations supposedly implicated in major trade union federations.

Included in the bibliography confiscated during operation "Falcon" is the book "Historic Lessons of the Vietnamese People's Struggle," consisting of 300 pages in fine print. On page 86 there is an entire subtitle, "Seeking to defend the masses' legal position." It might be claimed that the MRTA leaders had not read, or forgot that document, which they had just printed, because its leaders' correspondence implicates, precisely, organizations that are not and should not be branches of a political organization, much less a subversive one.

That is not all. The MRTA's organizational crisis has proven to be so deep-seated that it resorted to military cadres to organize the event at the Acoustic Shell. One letter states: "The function will play a positive role if it really depends on the work of comrades dedicated to that area. But if it depends on comrades who are clandestine, it becomes too much of a risk. The other comrades, those doing overt work, will only observe, and hardly make any contribution."

According to the documentation, the entities implicated, undoubtedly through a breach of trust, were the National Federation of Mine, Metal, and Iron and Steel Workers of Peru; and the Paper Workers, Plastic Workers, and Laboratory Workers Federations.

The corrosion is occurring in all areas. For example, one of the instructions notes: "The comrade that they sent for the commandos did not keep the appointment."

The frustrations are accumulating. In another message one reads: "I finally saw the female comrade that they sent to me again, the day before yesterday. We had a long talk; she explained her problems to me, and I mentioned the possibility of certain solutions. But the decision was, in fact, related to the commitment. She asked me to think it over, and we postponed it until early today. I was there (sic) waiting for her and, unfortunately, she did not arrive."

In some instances, the self-criticism takes on pessimistic tones. One of the letters states: "EL VOZ REBELDE [Rebel Voice] arrived with many printing flaws, and also with some claims that I believe the reality itself has refuted. We could comment on its contents later, but a press with this appearance only shows that those predicting doom, who go around saying that we are near extinction, are right...."

Nevertheless, there is no lack of sinister remarks. For example, when they refer to the kidnapped industrialist, Antonio Furukawa, and the distribution of food supplies being arranged with his relatives.

The inclination toward selective assassination comes to light when they discuss a certain Rondinel. The text, probably by Cerpa Cartolini, declares without concealment: "I have consulted with Carlos about Rondinel, and I think he is right: It just has to be done, carrying out the intelligence work and executing it. I am told that, because of her level of understanding, the girl is already well aware that she is condemned...."

It would appear that the MRTA wants to die killing. It has not forgotten anything, nor has it learned anything.

The signs of a loss of all direction in its program and ideology are clearly apparent in one of the letters, also unquestionably from Cerpa, stating that, at best, the AFP [expansion unknown] are good, and later denying this.

An additional sign of the movement's weaknesses is evident in the ease with which its members mention, in their correspondence, persons implicated in its activity, with complete names. The most fundamental rules of clandestinity seem to have been forgotten by these odd "revolutionaries."

The captured correspondence also reveals how use was made of funds from certain NGO [nongovernmental organizations], through infiltration and extortion.

The fact is that the blow dealt by DIVICOTE-2 is praiseworthy for a twofold reason: because of the seizures, and also for its revelation of the MRTA's internal symptoms. One specific comment is essential: That antiterrorist force will undoubtedly be congratulated again but, as always, there will be no promotion for its cadres. Captain Valdivia, like his colleagues, has not been given a promotion to date, not even a posthumous one.

National Executive Committee	
Imprisoned	At Large
Victor Polay	Nestor Cerpa
Lucero Cumpa	Hugo Avellaneda
Americo Gilvonio	Miguel Rincon
Peter Cardenas	Sergio Murillo

* Statistics on Coca Production, Drug Seizures

93WD0739Z Lima SI in Spanish 19 Jul 93 pp 46-47

[Article by correspondent Iban de Rementeria]

[Text] In the coca-producing countries, the battle against the drug traffic is being waged with three types of action. In the area of supply interdiction, confiscations of coca leaves, paste, and base, and of cocaine hydrochloride, as well as seizures of components and equipment for drug processing, are being made. Moreover, the agents engaged in the illegal production and marketing of drugs are being brought to justice. In the area of supply prevention, illicit crops are being eradicated and alternative development is being offered to replace their production. Let us observe the current situation in Peru.

Cocaine Production

Recent studies indicate that there are in Peru approximately 300,000 hectares authorized for growing coca, only 200,000 of which are in production. The total volume of their annual harvest amounts to 130,000 metric tons [MT] of dried leaves (with a yield of 650 kg per hectare). About 10 MT from that crop supply the traditional leaf consumers.

Meanwhile, from the surplus 120,000 MT of leaves, nearly 396 MT of highly pure cocaine hydrochloride are extracted. Of that volume, 9 MT are consumed by 280,000 casual and habitual users of base and hydrochloride in the country. Moreover, the law enforcement agencies seize another 5 MT annually. The remaining 382 MT of cocaine are taken abroad as contraband. Ten percent of this volume, converted into hydrochloride, has an (FOB) export value of $76 million per year; and the rest is converted into cocaine base, the FOB export value of which amounts to $241 million. This makes a total of $317 million incorporated into the national economy in 1992.

That figure may seem too low, because we had calculated that, during 1982, Peru received $1.146 billion from illegal cocaine exports, whereas, with only 50,000 hectares of coca, 155 MT of base were produced. However, it must be borne in mind that 10 years ago the FOB price for base was $6.8 million per MT; whereas, last year, it reached only $0.7 million per MT.

That decline in the prices of cocaine and coca leaves, combined with the rise in costs of agricultural components, has been the cause of both the reduction in coca leaf yields per hectare (from 1,000 to 650 kg), and the expansion of the cultivated area. The purpose of this was to maintain a constant supply of cocaine base totaling between 300 and 400 MT, since 1986.

To be added to the 382 MT of cocaine illegally exported from Peru are the 245 MT produced by Bolivia and Colombia, making a grand total of 627 MT. The authorities of the consuming countries estimate that 10 percent of this total, that is, 63 MT, has been confiscated.

Of the remaining 564 MT distributed on the streets, 246 MT (43.6 percent) meet the demand of 8.6 million casual and habitual cocaine users in the United States of America. It may be inferred that the other 318 MT must be consumed by approximately 11 million users in Europe, Japan, and Latin America.

Drug Control in Peru

During 1992, the Peruvian authorities seized nearly 5 MT of cocaine base and hydrochloride, as well as 111 kg of marijuana. In the area of preventing the illicit supply, over 6,000 hectares of coca in seedbeds, equivalent to 13 MT of cocaine, were eradicated. As for crop substitution, in 1992 some 9,000 campesinos in Huallaga and La Convencion Valleys (Cusco), renting out nearly 12,000 hectares for alternative crops (primarily coffee, cacao, annatto, and tea), generated a value added of $7 million. This is equivalent to the value of 5,000 MT of coca leaves, from which 17 MT of cocaine could have been extracted.

The combination of these three types of action by the Peruvian Government to curb the illicit drug supply and thus meet its obligations agreed upon in international conventions only succeeded in precluding a supply of 35 MT of cocaine: 9 percent of the national production.

It should be stressed that curbing nearly half of the drugs was an achievement of alternative development, which made it possible to substitute for the campesinos' income from illicit crops. These crop substitution projects have been carried out since 1986 in Peru's Huallaga and La Convencion Valleys, with technical and financial assistance from the United Nations International Drug Control Program (PNUFID) (UNDCP in English). The disbursements for them total only $2.7 million per year.

Alternative Development

Alternative development, as part of the overall agricultural and rural development, and the substitution of illicit crops, as part of the drug control policy and strategy, depend intrinsically on the policies for agricultural prices and markets. This assertion was made by the United Nations International Durg Control Board (JIFE), which stated in its 1991 report: "It is axiomatic that, for the success of the programs aimed at providing income substitution opportunities to farmers growing drug plants, they must at the same time be furnished with adequate markets and fair export prices for those substitute products."

The Coca Harvests in Peru

Zones	Cultivation intensity	Hectares authorized		Hectares in production	Yield	Production	
		Number	Percent		(Kg/Hectare)	MT	Percent
1. San Ignacio-Bagua	Low	9,030	3.0	6,014	300	1,804	1.4
2. Upper Huallaga(1)	High(2)	103,671	34.6	69,045	600	41,427	31.9
3. Central Huallaga(3)	Very high	71,776	23.9	47,803	900	43,023	33.1
4. Aguaytia River	Very high	15,350	5.1	10,223	900	9,201	7.1
5. Puerto Inca(4)	Medium	12,040	4.0	8.019	350	2,807	2.2
6. Satipo(5)	High	19,370	6.5	12,900	600	7,740	6.0
7. Apurimac River	Very high	22,370	7.5	14,898	900	13,408	10.3
8. Quillabamba	Medium	34,610	11.5	23,050	350	8,068	6.2
9. Tambopata	Medium	5,935	2.0	3,953	350	1,384	1.0
10. Sandia	Medium	4,820	1.6	3,210	350	1,124	0.9
Total		298,972		199,115(6)		129,986	

1. Tingo Maria-Juanjui.

2. Had very high production, but the impact of *fusarium oxysporum* is affecting 40 percent of the cultivated area.

3. Juanjui-Tarapoto-Yurimaguas.

4. Codo Pozuzo.

5. Ene, Perene, and Tambo Rivers.

6. It is estimated that a third of the authorized crops are in a state of pruning, renewal, rest, or abandonment.

Source: Projections on statistics from the Project To Support the Upper Jungle Development Policy (APODESA), Lima, 1991.

* Discovery of Possible La Cantuta Remains Recounted

93SM0373A Lima SI in Spanish 12 Jul 93 pp 18-31, 38

[Article by SI correspondents Edmundo Cruz and Jose Arrieta]

[Excerpts] Thursday 8 July, 0545 in the morning. A hill on km 14 of the Lima-Cieneguilla highway, outside the capital. The sun has not yet risen, and a dense fog impedes visibility. The Volkswagen, in which four reporters from the magazine SI have traveled, turns off the road to the left, and slowly moves off along the trail providing entry to the garbage dump where the Tambo Viejo ravine begins. Mission: to confirm the veracity of some important information.

Garbage trucks, the only vehicles on this site, can move another 300 meters. After that one has to walk. This time, the SI car had to stop before that limit. The headlights suddenly fixed on the multicolored head of a lion apparently staked to the middle of the road. It was frightful. The previous Saturday, on an initial reconnaissance trip to the site, that sign had not been seen.

The unexpected sight obliged the three reporters following behind in the car to get out and advance on foot in squad formation, that is, two abreast and one behind, for safety, until they came to the designated point. The driver remained in the car with the lights out. Another reporter remained posted on one of the hills at the entrance. From there he would report throughout the day on the entrance of persons and vehicles to the ravine, and the passing of police or military cars along the highway. Communication was by walkie-talkie. They had two of them. The intention was purely preventive. In case of intervention by the forces of law and order, the instructions were precise: remain at the site and simply explain our journalistic mission.

When it became light, the sky was overcast and the thermometer, brought at the last minute by one of the members of the group, showed 12 degrees centigrade.

At 0630 in the morning the second group arrived: an archeology student, a pathologist, a photographer, another reporter, and a digger. Ten minutes later, SI Director Ricardo Uceda and another reporter were at the site.

Five days before, on Saturday 3 July, Uceda and the reporters responsible for the investigation, Edmundo

Cruz and Jose Arrieta, had verified that the zone matched quite closely what had been described in the anonymous map obtained by SI. The map purported to show the location of four hidden graves on the right slope of the ravine, some 500 or 600 meters from the highway.

Now the task was to prove if in fact the supposed graves showed signs corresponding to the information. The director's order was clear. We would only explore the supposed grave halfway, and at the first sign of remains, everything would be immediately stopped, and the legal authorities would be informed.

At 0645 in the morning the digging began. All eyes of the group were trained on that 1-by-1.5 meter rectangle which supposedly contained bodies. At 0701 the first remains were found, similar to burnt bone. Then another blackened bone-like object emerged, impossible to identify. This was followed by a fragment of hairy skin.

Those in the group who were knowledgeable even smelled the pieces and did not hide their suspicions that they could be human remains. But they went no farther. Everything was placed in a small plastic bag. They had dug approximately one meter deep, when the digger thought he felt a fragile, rough surface like cardboard.

The expectations were confirmed, because in effect, the information gathered by SI indicated the remains were buried in cardboard boxes. We proceeded to dig them up cautiously, and gradually the name of a brand of cigarettes was read (Hamilton) printed on a piece of cardboard that extended practically the entire length and width of the excavated area.

On the side of the cardboard there appeared dirt with ashes and one began to smell a slight odor in the air. A broken bone, which those knowledgeable agreed was undeniably a human tibia, had fallen out of the box.

That was enough, we said. Everything was stopped. It was 0725 in the morning. According to the plan, Ricardo Uceda hurriedly left for La Molina. From there he immediately informed the human rights monitor and the corresponding district attorneys of what had been found and requested their intervention, according to the law.

Rosa Mujica, of the National Human Rights Coordination, was advised, so that the institution's lawyers could facilitate obtaining the emergency resources. The coordinator assigned the task to lawyers Francisco Soberon and Cesar Azabache.

Officials Arrive

After noon, when more than a hundred domestic and international reporters had arrived at the site, three provincial attornies were present at Tambo Viejo: Victor Cubas Villanueva of the 16th Provincial Attorney's Office; Juan Coraje Herreros, special provincial attorney for terrorism; and Cecilia Magallanes. Amnesty International Latin America Director Peter Archard, in Lima to investigate the case of the La Cantuta disappearances, was one of the first to arrive. At 1300, presuming the approval of the provincial attorneys, the Englishman took the initiative and began measuring the first grave, while the arrival of the medical law expert was awaited. The Englishman was surprising in his expertise in rigorous measurement and photography, compass in hand. "They brought technology," commented an admiring policeman. The man was unaware that the indicator of the cardinal points had been taken from the watch chain of a foreign correspondent.

Juan Angel Minano Robles, medical law expert from the Institute of Medical Law, appeared at 1500 in the afternoon. He soon began excavating the four graves and exhuming the alleged bodies.

There is some controversy over what occurred between 1500 and 1800 in the afternoon on Thursday the 8th. The excavations supervised by District Attorney Cecilia Magallanes, after Department Head Victor Cubas Villanueva had already left, were not complete.

The second grave was picked at very superficially and nothing was found. The third would have suffered the same fate, were it not for pressure by the press, who demanded that the digging continue, resulting in the finding of a significant number of remains. Conclusion: remains were found only in the first grave initially opened by SI, and in the third, where they continued to dig against the orders of the aforementioned pro incial attorney.

The following day, Friday the 9th, the digging was suspended, and Saturday afternoon the insistence of members of congress such as Gloria Helfer and lawyers such as Enrique Bernales, as well as the human rights coordinator, forced the resumption of activities at the Cieneguilla site.

Are They From La Cantuta?

To whom do the blackened human remains discovered in the clandestine graves of Cieneguilla last Thursday, 8 July 1993, belong?

That is something that will now have to be determined by the investigations of the Public Ministry and the judicial authorities.

What this magazine did in formulating an accusation of presumed guilt, which in principal has been confirmed, was to follow through on a proven hunch to the discovery of the clandestine graves.

That in no way means—and SI Director Ricardo Uceda has repeated it time and again—that the remains discovered there belong to the 10 persons who disappeared from La Cantuta on 18 July 1992, almost a year ago.

What is certain, and this chronicle points in that direction, is that this magazine came to Cieneguilla investigating the La Cantuta case. But that is something entirely different.

Until last March, the investigations of the abduction of Professor Hugo Munoz Sanchez and the nine students from the Enrique Guzman y Valle-La Cantuta Education University were bogged down in testimonies that had been brought forward primarily from civilian sources, family members, colleagues of those kidnapped, and authorities at the university center.

On Friday 2 April, the release of the anonymous "Leon Dormido" [Sleeping Lion] document, read by Henry Pease in the CCD forum, and on Wednesday 5 May, the accusation letter of General Rodolfo Robles Espinoza, with the authority of his high military rank, both documents from military sources, opened unexpected doors, now not just on the events between 2300 on the previous night and 0415 in the morning of 18 July 1992, but also on what occurred afterward, the itinerary the victims had followed before they were eliminated, about which both documents provided different versions.

Tambo Machay Hill Version

This hill lies alongside the university grounds. In October 1992, family members asked the judge for a visual inspection, under the suspicion that the bodies of those who had disappeared would be found there. Esmeralda Arroyo, from the 14th provincial attorney's office, found nothing more than spent shell casings and footprints of a military patrol.

Huachipa Version

This is what the Leon Dormido document read in the CCD claims: It says that on the same 18 July, Santiago Martin Rivas and his group waited for daybreak, executed those who had been captured, and buried them near Huachipa mountain, in the fields beside the Ramiro Priale highway. But, it adds, the next day, facing recriminations from commanding officers, they removed the remains to a more secure location.

Robles Version

"I have knowledge that they were killed at a place other than Huachipa. I cannot provide further information for the time being because my people are continuing to work on it. Do not believe that I have avoided and forgotten about this issue. I am here safeguarding my honor but I am continuing to work and am receiving a flow of information. I know that there will be a surprise soon, and all these lies and corruption will end." (Statement by General Rodolfo Robles Espinoza to the magazine CARETAS, published in edition 1262 of 20 May 1993.)

Southern Version

The latest military versions lead to a possible narrowing down of the area where the cadavers of the kidnapped La Cantuta residents might be found. Versions circulating in military intelligence circles mention the names of several known places between km 30 and km 100 of the Southern Panamerican Highway.

By last June, SI had succeeded in accumulating some of the elements of the case that had reached the CCD investigation committee. One of them was entitled "Chronology of the Presentation to Brigadier General Commander of the 1st Special Forces Division." Presumably it was a nine-page aide-de-memoire for a presentation to General Luis Perez Documet, with an approximate date of February 1992.

In a list of people classified as members of Shining Path, included are the names of two of those who disappeared from La Cantuta.

This document was shown by SI to the Army commander himself before its publication. The response was a summary investigation categorizing the document as false. The expert police judgment in that sense was widely demonstrated in the first meeting of tanks on Wednesday, 21 April.

The Manila Folder

During this entire phase, SI's efforts were focussed on obtaining civilian and military testimony to allow a reconstruction of the itinerary of those kidnapped, from 0415 of the morning of 18 July 1992 forward. In this task, anonymous testimony was obtained from Army intelligence officers and operative intelligence agents (the so-called AIO) which led to the construction of a version based on those sources, which traced the steps of the kidnap victims through the SIE [Army Intelligence Service], to the Commando School, and later to the south, which coincides with the latest versions noted.

Those same sources later provided an important fact. They reported that the woman who was supposedly a La Cantuta student seized by a fit of crying while crossing the Rimac bridge on the morning of 18 July 1992, was in reality one of two agents the Colina group infiltrated among the students. It was not true, then, as Deputy Gilberto Siura suggests, that the group was moved and decided to release her. It was a trick.

Between May and June, upon entering the decisive phase of the parliamentary investigation of the La Cantuta case, the various civilian, police, and military sources who were consulted perceived that there was an extraordinary possibility that unidentified sources had provided authentic proof of the place where, according to them, those who had disappeared from La Cantuta were buried. This occurred subsequent to the discussion of the case in the CCD.

It was beginning precisely during those days that SI initiated a series of contacts, as discreetly as possible, seeking those proofs, until on Friday 2 July it succeeded in having delivered a manila envelope containing two items: one really gruesome, a small bag containing a sample of supposedly human bones; and a handwritten sketch with a map showing a site with four clandestine graves.

One month earlier, SI had combed the southern zone, in the area mentioned above, in search of evidence. Apparently, people other than the media were involved in that investigation. The only thing obtained was a disconcerting version. Normally well-informed sources maintained that leaks about the burial place in the south had caused the remains to be moved again, but they did not specify the new location. A route did indeed appear marked on the sketch this magazine received on Friday the 2nd of this month: the Tambo Viejo ravine, in Cieneguilla.

Here blackened human remains were found. Human rights violations are clearly evident. What is not certain, and that is a delicate matter falling to the judicial authorities, is identification of the victims.

The research described here constitutes a working hypothesis, which led to an extremely important finding, but it is not sufficient to state without hesitation that the remains that were found belong to those who disappeared from La Cantuta. That will be determined with certainty by the judicial investigation, as long as a clean study is ensured, with no tricks.

[Box, p 22]

The Message

- his map is for the public to know about the disappearance of the students and professor from La Cantuta.
- Here are the students buried by the military.
- One month ago they were buried, burned, in cardboard boxes.
- This is the map by which you are to find these clandestine graves.
- As additional evidence and proof, we enclose a hip bone and pieces of blackened human flesh, which were first burned at the barracks.
- Recently we decided to make you aware of this because we fear for our lives, but God protects us and other good men. And for the health of the country and the democracy, which as good Peruvians we have the right to express our opinion, and may everything be brought to light, and the murderers, whom you are not far from finding, be punished. We thus provide this map and the exact site so that the public may know.

Note: There are many prints of military boots at the first grave.

* EL DIARIO Editor Arrested; Cieneguilla Map Found

93WR0309Z Lima SI in Spanish 19 Jul 93 pp 25-27, 49

[Unattributed article]

[Text] On Tuesday, 13 July, the DINCOTE [National Counterterrorism Directorate] unexpectedly summoned the press to introduce a group of Shining Path (SL) members arrested last Saturday, 10 July, in a house located at 495 Los Pinos Lane, in Combas.

Five SL members were captured there while fully engaged in the process of publishing EL DIARIO, their spokesman. Apprehended on the scene were: Pablo La Serna Larosa, Juan Jara Berrospi, Juan Mallea Tomailla, Sandra Cubas Soto, and Olga Gamarra Villanueva.

Furthermore, Carlos Villanueva Benavides, Johnny Obando Moran, and Luis Solis Acosta were arrested on different premises in San Miguel.

Who Were They?

Of all those captured, Juan Jara Berrospi appears to be the group's visible head. During November 1989, the DINCOTE raided the offices of EL DIARIO in Magdalena, and learned from the documentation seized that Jara had participated in a campaign promoting bonds for solidarity with SL. He was also discovered to be in charge of the newspaper's neighborhoods section.

Johnny Obando Moran apparently was an assistant instructor at San Marcos who, according to the DINCOTE, was responsible for the editorial section of EL DIARIO. Pablo La Serna, for his part, is married to Olga Gamarra; and Sandra Cubas had done domestic work at the Los Pinos house where they were all living at the time of the raid.

Carlos Villanueva Benavides was studying social sciences at San Marcos, and the police claim that Luis Solis Acosta already had a record for terrorism.

The Operation

According to the police, the captures took place after a patient monitoring effort, including the taping of clandestine meetings of those now under arrest since last June, when the DINCOTE succeeded in identifying Shining Path's new press and propaganda team.

Their patience was rewarded when DINCOTE arrived at the Los Pinos premises in Combas. According to police sources, it was there that the last three issues of EL DIARIO appearing this year were published. It was decided to keep a discreet surveillance over the site, to determine the identities of those entering and leaving the house. Finally, early on the morning of the Saturday before last, the DINCOTE personnel decided to intervene. They were greatly surprised upon finding an editing table with photos, texts, and all the material ready for an edition of EL DIARIO.

Also discovered, according to the police, was a headline reading "international scoop," a photograph of a military boot print, and others of the area in which the Cieneguilla graves were found, as well as a map of their locations similar to the one published in SI's 332nd edition.

The press release submitted by the DINCOTE also noted that the map had been addressed to Congressman "Caceres," chairman of the commission in the La Cantuta case. The agency claimed that, based on a handwriting examination, it was determined that both the map published in SI and the one seized from Shining Path had been prepared in the same "handwriting." It also remarked that, from this, "it may be inferred that at least two had been prepared: one addressed to the public, appearing in a local magazine, and another addressed to 'Mr. Caceres'."

Story Without an End

Nevertheless, the DINCOTE account poses a series of questions implying that the complete police story has not yet been told.

For example, the DINCOTE has not reported exactly what was said in the edition of EL DIARIO being prepared in Combas. However, it claimed that the map and photos of Cieneguilla were also to be published as an "international scoop."

This leads us to the next question: "Was Shining Path already aware of the graves' existence in Cieneguilla? That is a possibility, although it is also possible that on Thursday, 8 July (the day on which SI reported the discovery), SL was on the site taking photographs. It should be recalled that the seizure occurred on Saturday, 10 July, two days after the Cieneguilla story had been made public. Hence, the police should have explained whether SL already knew about the graves, or intended to use the newly discovered case of the clandestine burials to its own advantage.

Another rather unclear point is the use that Shining Path (presumably) was making of the map. The DINCOTE made no comment about this. How was the map being edited? What had been written on it? Was it a map prepared by SL members, or was it delivered to them by a third person?

These questions are also compounded by the fact that no Shining Path language was used in the text written on the map. Words such as "God," "democracy," and "parliament," not used by SL, appear there. Furthermore, the manuscript does not contain the adjectives always used by Shining Path.

Thus, there are two possibilities here: Either Shining Path is using a totally different strategy, or the map was not prepared by its members, but rather was given to them by someone whose identity is unknown.

Now then, the police account suggests that it was a Shining Path member who drew the map. Who was it? Has the DINCOTE conducted an expert handwriting examination of those in custody to learn whether one of them did so? These are questions that the police presumably are ready to answer.

Following the same police rationale, there is another point that is not clear either. If EL DIARIO was about to publish an "international scoop," why did it deliver the map to SI beforehand? How could it reveal an exclusive story when the discovery at Cieneguilla had already circled the globe two days earlier? Or could they have been preparing their clandestine edition unaware that someone else (in this case, SI) had the map in its possession? If that were so, what scoop could we be talking about?

Furthermore, the two maps apparently were not prepared in the same handwriting. A cursory examination would show that they were not drawn by the same person.

Also, if we adhere to the police account, there was a Shining Path conspiracy, which culminated in the delivery of the map to SI. In this case, the DINCOTE is obligated to explain how that operation occurred; especially since Ricardo Uceda, editor of SI, has claimed that SI's source was not a Shining Path member.

Venezuela

Congress Approves Umbrella Law; Concludes Session

PA2008043293 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1550 GMT 16 Aug 93

[Report by Nayauri Jimenez on "The News" newscast]

[Text] The Congress of the Republic has concluded its activities for this constitutional period. Marathon sessions which started one week ago resulted in the approval of a series of laws of national interest. Approved laws include the umbrella law, the 1994 fiscal year law, the national cinematography law, and the National Congress' 1994 budget.

The most important law approved by the National Congress is the Special Powers Law because it grants the president of the Republic special authority for a 90-day period. The law enables him to adopt emergency measures, particularly dealing with the national economy and finances.

The National Congress also approved the 1994 fiscal year budget, for the amount of 1,430,635,000,000 bolivares. Likewise, at 0200 one morning during a marathon session, Congress approved the umbrella law for 1993 and 1994, respectively.

It is important to mention that the Venezuelan Senate held 397 sessions—152 more than in any previous constitutional period. The Chamber of Deputies met 117 times and approved 37 legislative bills. The Congress of the Republic left more than 25 bills pending in the two chambers. These bills include the salary increase bill, the basic basket bill, reforms to the exercise of journalism, and three legal instruments presented by the Foreign Ministry.

Routine activities in the capital will resume on 24 January 1994. Meanwhile, a delegate commission will continue to work at the National Congress facilities.